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Presidents Pompidou and Nixon meet in Iceland

Frankfurter Rundschau

The Reykjavik summit meeting of Presidents Nixon and Pompidou has not by a long chalk brought about the much-vaunted new look in transatlantic relations.

Mind you, a clear and cordial exchange of views designed to air mutual standpoints and differences took place, and that alone represents a step in the right direction.

As was only to be expected, though, a number of issues were not settled and prior to any fresh Atlantic partnership a further series of consultations between Mr Nixon and other European governments and between M. Pompidou and his Common Market partners will prove necessary.

In Iceland President Pompidou budged not one iota from his previous political standpoints. He made the holding of an Atlantic summit dependent on the achievement of progress holding forth the promise of success in preliminary talks by this autumn, and President Nixon concurred.

The American leader will doubtless make his tour of Europe, probably including a visit to the European Commission in Brussels, but this remains a far cry from the Atlantic summit Nixon, Bonn and Whitehall have in mind.

Clarification of monetary and trade matters will call for a long process of consultations. Following Reykjavik it would look as though the United States no longer insists that both sides of the coin, and preferably defence matters too, be dealt with as a single package.

For its part France now seems cautiously willing to acknowledge at least some kind of binding link between monetary and trade ties.

There need be no further mention of the fact that as far as Paris is concerned the prime concern of all endeavours to send a new broom round Atlantic relations must be a reorganisation of what is, as President Nixon agreed, a no longer viable monetary system.

At all events, the two statesmen assured one another that their mutual views had not ground to a rigid halt.

The store M. Pompidou set by keeping US troops stationed in Europe was worthy of note, not so much because the idea is anything new but because it is not as a rule French tactics to court American goodwill in public rather than voice wishes behind closed doors.

No great stretch of the imagination is required to visualise that what President Pompidou had in mind was to put on record to the Western world his profound anxiety about arrant military detente euphoria that is particularly widesspread in Bonn, or so he would have us believe.

On matters of European security M. Pompidou sounded such a note of concern in his talks with Mr Nixon that the prospects of a modification of the French approach to disarmament endeavours in Europe in general and the Vienna MBFR talks in particular would seem to be fairly rosy.

France has been reminded in the past that it cannot stem the tide of detente by merely standing aside and running the risk of being overtaken by events.

By means of an absent chair policy Paris would, if anything, increase the risk of the superpowers coming to an agreement regardless of the others, leaving the countries of Europe with no option but to tag along in blocs, as in the past a prospect that particularly dismays France.

Paris continues to view the formation of blocs as one of the gravest drawbacks of, the talks on mutual balanced force reduction in Central Europe.

It is no longer out of the question that France might join the Vienna MBRF talks, initially, perhaps, as an observer, later as a full member.

President Nixon will not have been able fully to dismiss M. Pompidou's argument that American troops remain stationed in Europe primarily in support of the United States' own interests.

He will, however, have told the French leader that Europe, and France in particular, cannot at one and the same time insist on US troops staying put and oppose the superpowers' endeavours to bring about a measure of disarmament.

In the long run, then, France can no longer simply disregard these endeavours.

M. Pompidou may not have claimed in Reykjavik to speak on Europe's behalf but he left no doubt that he will stymie any arrangement between Europe and the United States that he considers to represent a surrender of European interests.

In his view the new Atlantic partnership is undergoing a process of fermentation in the course of which everyone, France included, must first reach maturity.

Lutz Krusche

(Frankfurter Rundschau, 2 June 1973)



King Olaf of Norway visits Bonn

King Olaf V of Norway arrived in Bonn on 4 June for a five-day State visit. The King was greeted by President Gustav Heinemann on his arrival. (Photo: dpa)

Bonn and Prague come to terms on 1938 Munich Agreement

The Bonn-Prague Treaty, which is to be finalised on 19 June and signed after the summer recess, includes no magic formula in connection with the declaration that the 1938 Munich Agreement is null and void.

The feeling of relief expressed by members of both delegations once negotiations had reached their conclusion is based on what might be called a judgment of Solomon and is claimed by experts to be something new.

The terms on which agreement was reached and which, so specialists feel, are designed to bring to an end ill feelings on both sides consist, as it were, of three parts:

– The preamble of the Treaty makes mention of the Munich Agreement and does so in no uncertain terms.

– In Article 1 Bonn and Prague agree that the Munich Agreement is null and void.

– Article 2 expressly and in detail precludes the possibility of bringing about changes in civil or criminal legal status.

These three parts strike a balance, it is noted, and this balance can be maintained in legal interpretation. They enable both sides to retain the legal viewpoints they held prior to and during the negotiations.

The declaration that the Munich Agreement is null and void is couched in the following terms:

"The Federal Republic of Germany and the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic consider the Munich Agreement of 29 September 1938 to be null and void with regard to their mutual relations and by the terms of this Treaty."

It is by a stroke of legal finesse that the term null and void is used without the necessary implications or additional comment (on which Prague was for so long insistant) that the Munich Agreement was null and void from the word go.

Legal experts note that null and void means from the moment pen was put to paper, say, only in civil law; at international law the term does not enjoy the same precision and is generally qualified in such a way as to suspend animation.

The terms of the Treaty will, moreover, ensure that no one is deprived of rights he or she enjoyed prior to it being signed. This applies in equal measure to individuals and to legal entities.

Bonn considers accompanying documents on Berlin and humanitarian problems to be nothing out of the ordinary. Similar clauses accompanied the Moscow and Warsaw treaties and the Basic Treaty between Bonn and East Berlin.

It is emphasised that these additional documents are as binding by the terms of international law as are the clauses of the Treaty proper.

The way is now clear for Bonn and Prague to establish full diplomatic relations this summer. Czech Deputy Foreign Minister Jiří Goetz has made it clear that his country is prepared to exchange ambassadors with the Federal Republic prior to the signing of the Treaty.

(Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger, 2 June 1973)

■ NATO

Cod War and Greek mutiny upset Nato apple cart

STUTTGARTER NACHRICHTEN

Since Nato was set up in April 1949 changes have occurred in the character of the Western alliance. Treaty members remain, of course, committed to lend each other military assistance in the event of an enemy attack, but an increasing number of other criteria have assumed greater importance.

A few years ago the military nexus was, as it were, extended to include a committee dealing with problems of modern society. The purpose of this Nato body known as the environmental committee is to foster an exchange of technological, scientific and economic data in order to help lay the groundwork of member-countries' domestic stability and prosperity.

This target reflects Nato's endeavour to remain a flexible force for integration even in a changing political landscape, though these efforts cannot be said to have met with unqualified success.

Iceland's problems have not, for instance, been solved, and Reykjavik seems prepared to risk a break with Nato in support of its fishermen's claim to fifty miles of territorial waters.

Still less has Nato been able to hit on a suitable means of dealing with political occurrences such as the mutiny on a Greek warship during Nato exercises. It is all very well to dismiss these events as an unimportant Cod War and a comic opera mutiny, but it does not do the situation justice.

Matters are made none the easier by the mutineers' claim to be firm supporters of Nato whose move is intended as a demonstration against the Athens military government, of which they disapprove.

The existence of a direct link between the Cod War off Iceland and the mutiny in the Mediterranean cannot be proved. No one can be considered responsible for the orchestration of both.

Nevertheless the occurrence of the one on the Northern and the North Atlantic pact at one and the same time must, viewed in context, represent an alarming indication of the process of erosion that is under way within Nato.

The motives of Iceland's Fisheries Minister are more apparent than those of the Greek naval captian, and the repercussions are easier to assess.

Minister Josefsson is a Communist who is utilising Iceland's national interest to strike a blow at the very foundations of Nato. Captain Pappas is a Greek monarchist who feels he has struck a blow at the Athens military junta he so dislikes and done so in the interest of democracy.

Nato is and must be concerned to maintain stability on its flanks and it can now no longer feel as sure of itself as it may have done. The US Sixth Fleet, based in the Mediterranean, assumes even greater importance as a factor shoring up stability.

Compensation could be found for a temporary setback to the defence preparedness of the Greek navy. It is by no means as easy to offset any weakening of Nato's position on Iceland.

Viewed against the background of the Vienna MBFR talks and the Helsinki European security conference these two occurrences, unconnected though they may be, share a common importance.

How, one wonders, would Nato have reacted if East-West relations had not been dominated by the spirit of detente but characterised by acute tension? How for that matter does the East view events in the West and to what extent do they *determine* its approach?

If Moscow were to conclude that time is on its side and that Nato is unable to counteract erosive and disruptive forces within its ranks, the Eastern Bloc would remain willing to negotiate but unwilling to make the slightest concession. Trouble within the North Atlantic alliance plays into the Soviet Union's hands.

Joachim Kannicht

(Stuttgarter Nachrichten, 29 May 1973)

Nato pins its hopes on *Mininux*

Nordwest Zeitung

The MBFR talks are getting off to an unconscionably slow start and Nato officials are worried lest they turn out to be no more than a show of military strength and its unpleasant political by-products in the course of which the Warsaw Pact makes no concessions whatsoever.

This is the impression current at Nato headquarters in Brussels following the MBFR preliminaries in Vienna.

According to Nato sources any delay in commencement of the talks is bound to represent a grave threat to the cohesion of the North Atlantic pact, the trouble being that individual governments have come to realise that increasingly up-to-the-minute weapons systems cost too much – as a rule the lion's share of national budgets.

High-ranking Nato officials are certainly alarmed by the pace of developments. From one day to the next intelligence reports come in to the effect that Eastern Bloc troop strength is going up and up.

In view of the present nuclear balance Western military men have come round to readvocating conventional rearmament – along hitherto undreamt-of uniform lines.

An item that created a real sensation was the news from the United States that miniature nuclear warheads have been developed. Within Nato they go by the name "mininux".

Work is to be accelerated to make these mininux "clean", i.e. from side-effects such as radiation and heat. They could then be used in conflict, and would be more effective by far than any other conventional weapon.

Mininux, or so Nato officials feel, could make war wageable again.

Helmut J. Weiand

(Nordwest Zeitung, 29 May 1973)

Joint MBFR approach badly needed

It now seems fairly certain that East-West talks on mutual balanced force reduction in Central Europe will be commenced this autumn.

By the terms of the Vienna agreement that paved the way for the talks Nato participants in the MBFR talks have little time left to reach agreement on ways and means of achieving whatever aim they may have in mind.

So far Nato countries have failed to reconcile their conflicting interests. A concept can hardly be submitted for approval to the June conferences of Nato Foreign and Defence Ministers in Brussels and Copenhagen, but the military working party responsible for planning must at least be given political instructions.

The West must try and rescue as much as possible of the element of balance in troop reductions as originally conceived, it having taken a battering due to the East's dislike of the entire concept of MBFR.

It would thus be advisable to aim at a percentage reduction in troops, say five or ten, on both sides rather than to think in terms of divisions, brigades or firepower, the withdrawal of which might jeopardise the balance of power.

This is a point on which Nato countries currently seem fairly agreed, though their cohesion need not necessarily last.

The bone of contention at present is whether or not foreign troops ought to be dealt with first. This, of course, would mean that the armed forces of the Central European countries themselves would not effect cuts until after the Four Powers had done so.

Now this would well suit US wishes for burden-sharing on the one hand and a swift reduction in Soviet military presence in the satellite countries of Eastern Europe on the other. Psychologically, though, it is a doubtful starter.

Can European governments seriously be expected to maintain the strength of their own armed forces when an agreement on reduction of the number of foreign troops stationed on their soil is in the offing?

Besides, manpower and financial difficulties are everywhere so serious that structural reforms of the armed forces are everywhere topical.

This being so, it might prove more advisable politically to negotiate on both aspects of the military nexus simultaneously. Either way, decisions must be taken soon.

What constraints on troop movements does the West intend to propose to the East, for that matter? Is there any point in going beyond the bounds of the territory originally proposed?

Can the West make do with satellite inspection of the Eastern terrain, as the United States evidently suggests? Or must there be insistence on ground patrols, if only to see whether the other side takes the agreement seriously?

No one can answer these questions yet, which adds weight to suspicions that Nato is so intent on cutting back its defence potential without delay that it will, in the final analysis, be unable to conduct negotiations toughly and patiently.

Patience and endurance are the only way of coming to a tolerable arrangement. At times the West appears to be in such a feeble state that the East cannot fail to feel powerful in comparison,

If the West will insist on wanting to accelerate the proceedings the East is bound to further delay the progress of negotiations in order to cut the cost to itself still further. *Wolfram von Raven*

(Die Welt, 29 May 1973)

Nato's Joseph Luns has tough nu[t] to crack

Nato Secretary-General Joseph L[uns] of Holland is faced not only [with] the Cod War between Britain and Ice[land] (this country, although also involved, [is] staying out of the limelight) but also [with] a dispute beween Greece and Italy.

Nato circles do, however, feel [the] request for political asylum in Italy [made] by part of the complement of the G[reek] warship *Velos* while on Nato manoe[uvres] following an unsuccessful Greek putsch against the military jun[ta in] Athens has its good points.

One of these redeeming features is [that] Greece, unlike Iceland, can hardly [threaten] to quit Nato.

Ever since 1956, when the Cyprus [issue] clouded relations between demo[cratic] Greece, as it then was, and Turkey, [it] has been an unwritten law among [Nato] countries to call on Nato mediation [in preference] to referring matters to the [United] Nations.

Athens occupies as much of [a] strategic position on Nato's southe[rn] flank as Iceland does to the [north] but the Greek junta realises [that] in view of the uncertain futu[re of] Yugoslavia to pull out of Nato [would] jeopardise its own prospects even [more] than tacit toleration of a fellow-me[mber] of Nato granting Greek naval [officers] political asylum.

It is self-evident that the Greek [navy] and air force are not associated w[ith the] military regime and are, in view o[f their] international professional ties, [met] with continual suspicion in Athens

Re-establishing peaceful relati[ons be]tween London and Reykjavik i[s a] tougher nut for Mr Luns to crack. [If] Britain (and Bonn) forced to ackno[wledge] Icelandic rights to fish within fifty m[iles of] the coast, Canada, Norway and D[enmark] (meaning, in this instance, Gre[enland]) might feel obliged to follow suit [at] the projected international confe[rence on] maritime law.

This would make serious inro[ads into] North Atlantic fishing-gounds n[ot only] for British and Federal Republic [but also] for Soviet trawlers.

The Common Market is obvio[usly] unable to draw a clear dis[tinction] between considerations of trade [and] defence as are the two superpowers.

It must, of course, be admitted [that the] threat of fish stocks in Icelandic [waters] being irreparably depleted is a vit[al issue] for Iceland and its 200,000 p[eople] whereas the threat is by no m[eans] comparable for Whitehall and [Bonn] although 25 per cent of Britain's [fish] comes from Icelandic waters.

(Frankfurter Rundschau, 28 May [1973])

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■ FOREIGN RELATIONS

Nicolae Ceausescu plans Bonn trip to discuss cooperation

Bucharest is obviously out to strengthen its ties with Bonn following the visit of Soviet Party leader Leonid Brezhnev to the Federal capital. Annemarie Renger, President of the Bundestag, is at present visiting Rumania. She has been welcomed most cordially and this is taken as preparation for a State visit from Bucharest to Bonn. Rumanian party leader and head of State Nicolae Ceausescu – who is also commander of the armed forces – will make an official visit to the Federal Republic from 26 to 29 June. Rumania is seeking an expansion of economic cooperation with this country and more cultural exchanges should follow.

With a kiss on the hand and Rumanian gallantry of the Old School the Socialist hosts in Bucharest, members of the Rumanian National Assembly, led Bundestag President Annemarie Renger through a full programme on her six-day visit with a small group of Bonn MPs.

The hospitality shown by the Rumanians wooed their guests. Tables were spread with delicacies and in the reception rooms at the Bucharest parliament and Foreign Ministry talks were held in a relaxed atmosphere. They were not burdened with specific questions which will be hammered out at other meetings on a different plane.

This visit was in the cause of getting to know each other, direct human contact, which has a special part to play when States with a different social and economic system come together.

Bonn's representatives of the people of this country, who are members of the parliamentary group for Federal-Rumanian friendship, are in Rumania at a time when the already cordial relations between the two countries show signs of responding to efforts to make them ever warmer.

Nicolae Ceausescu, who holds all the sources of power in Rumania in his hand, will make an official visit to this country at the end of June. At Bucharest ministries great importance is being attached to this visit. Rumania has high hopes for economic benefits. But the visit of the delegation from Bonn has a special political interest for this country as well.

Rumania is pressing for increased scientific and technical cooperation and the expansion of economic cooperation with the Federal Republic, which is already Rumania's most important trading partner after the Soviet Union.

A special effort is being made in the direction of industrial cooperation, towards setting up more joint companies by means of which Rumania's debts to this country would be amortized through the supply of manufactured goods (though this would hardly be beneficial to this country's attempts to fight inflation).

Experiences of Federal Republic companies in cooperation with Rumania so far – MAN for instance – have been good, even when complicated processes have been involved.

Confidence is also inspired by the industrial development of Rumania which was top of the list of Comecon countries last year with expansion of 12.5 per cent. Rumanian sources state that in the first quarter of this year growth was fourteen per cent.

Negotiations with five major companies in this country are already under way. Agreement has already been reached with Renk, a subsidiary of Gutehoffnungshütte.

But there are limitations to excessively high aims the Rumanians may set themselves. The amount of credit offered by this country has already mounted to about 1,800 million Marks, according to unofficial sources. Trading and the balance of payments in Rumania is also in the red this year.

As far as this country is concerned there is preference for a programme of joint projects with Rumania in the Third World, which would provide three advantages: relief of the Rumanian shortage of foreign exchange, an opportunity to cut back the Federal Republic's balance of trade surplus and supply to developing countries at favourable prices, the Third World preferring to deal with the less powerful industrialised nations.

Bonn is particularly keen to come to an arrangement with Rumania about the right to represent West Berlin. In earlier days trade agreements conceded that Berlin was part of the West German Mark zone. In more recent days pragmatism has been the order of the day and no specific arrangement for Berlin was voiced. At the most recent international fair in Bucharest in October 1972 Berlin was included in the Federal Republic sector.

At the moment the Rumanians are busy weighing up the consequences of the Four-Power Agreement on Berlin and this country's East Bloc Treaties as well as the agreements outlined during Brezhnev's visit to Bonn.

The Soviet party leader's Bonn visit was not reported in the Rumanian press for two days. Only the final communiqué was issued for Rumanian ears, and that not in its entirety. Official Rumanian sources are keeping a discreet silence about the whole complex of matters.

Ceausescu, who also plans to visit Hamburg and Munich, will probably sign a cultural exchange agreement in Bonn with a list of events for the next two years as well as an agreement for the opening of a German library in Bucharest and a Rumanian library in this country.

On their visit to Rumania Annemarie Renger and her party visited the Rumanian national collection and joined Foreign Minister Macovescu for his sixtieth birthday. They visited tourist attractions in the Danube Delta and the historic monasteries of the Vltava. Before returning to Bonn they held closing talks with Ceausescu.

Martin Saller

(Die Welt, 30 May 1973)

Chinese Minister shuns Bonn

Ambassador Rolf Pauls has visited deputy Chinese Foreign Minister Chiao Kuan-hua. Political observers believe that the main reason for this meeting was to explain to the close associate of Chou En-lai the contents of the communiqué issued at the end of Leonid Brezhnev's Bonn visit.

Diplomatic circles have commented on the fact that Foreign Minister Chi Peng-fei plans to visit London and Paris on his European tour in June, but not Bonn, although a visit to this country had originally been planned for April.

The reason for not calling at Bonn is given as the tight schedule, but diplomats surmise that the Chinese Foreign Minister is unwilling to come to Bonn hard on the heels of the Soviet Communist Party leader.

The trip to London emphasises the cordial relations obtaining between Peking and Britain. Chi is expected to discuss the question of an official Chinese mission in Hong Kong and the proposed visit of Premier Edward Heath to China this autumn or winter. In Paris he will be discussing details of the planned visit of President Pompidou to China in September.

(Die Welt, 28 May 1973)

EEC fears Soviet seduction of the Federal Republic

It was an ominous coincidence that British Premier Edward Heath was visiting French President Georges Pompidou in Paris at the same time as Leonid Brezhnew, the Soviet Communist Party leader was turning Bonn's Petersberg into a Rhineland Kremlin!

In the official reports of the British-French meeting the visit of Brezhnev to Bonn was, of course, not mentioned. But undoubtedly it was one of the important matters discussed by the two sides of the one-time *entente cordiale*.

The British and French have discovered to their amazement that the relationship between Russia and Germany is marked not only by the terrible heritage of World War II, but also a psychological affinity that has grown up through centuries of living as neighbours.

Compared with the Brezhnev visit to Paris last year, surrounded by polite but starchy ceremonial the Soviet visit to the Rhineland appeared to be quite cordial and without pomp and circumstance.

The whole Western world has encouraged Chancellor Brandt to pursue an active [Ost]politik. Neither Paris nor London nor [Wa]shington can, therefore, pull a long face [no]w that this relaxation of tension [be]tween Bonn and Moscow has crystallised [in]to a tangible relationship.

But of course the French do not regard [th]e latest developments without con[cer]n and a touch of Rapallo complex. It [is] significant that the French com[me]ntator René Dabernat, a member of [th]e older generation, should write in *Le [Mo]nde* that the Germans' need for great [po]litic[al] visions must be provided with a [Eu]ropean framework with the aid of the British and French, Otherwise, he says, we run the risk that the West Germans will try to exploit their dynamic power in the broad expanses of Siberia.

In the three most important capitals of the Western world ears have been pricked to hear the "long-term" economic advantages that Brezhnev expressed to the Federal German Capitalists.

It is some years since Paris and Moscow formed the so-called "Grande Commission" which was designed to expand the level of trade between the two countries phenomenally.

It cannot be because of any lack of

DEUTSCHE ZEITUNG

talent on the part of the French with regard to matters of foreign trade that no major progress was achieved. One has only to consider the halting manner in which Soviet-Japanese trade is carried out and the disappointments the Italians have felt in their trade dealings with the Soviet Union.

Perhaps, Washington and Paris feel, Brezhnev really does intend Russian economic policy to undergo thorough revision, including his country's first experiments with the Federal Republic.

One the other hand perhaps the visit to Bonn was just a warm-up for the forthcoming round of negotiations the Secretary General of the Soviet Communist Party will hold in the United States.

Moscow's attempt to play off this country against America seems quite legitimate. But for the French it is a matter of far graver concern that an acceleration of Bonn's trade with the East could have explosive repercussions on the European Community.

On the other hand Paris views it is advantageous that the Soviet Union via its gigantic economic cooperation with the Federal Republic should indeed be working towards a certain degree of peaceful co-existence with the whole of Europe.

On the other hand we hear in the Elysée Palace warning voices saying that the western German State could be lured into unlimited cooperation with the Soviet Union, so that, like it or not, this country would find itself to a certain extent dependent on Moscow, especially as the presence and influence of the United States west of the Elbe is declining at the same time.

No one on the banks of the Seine is suggesting that this country could be Finlandised but in France people have enough of a sense of history to remember the time when Prussia carried out a foreign policy *sous l'oeil de la Russie*.

In London reactions are much calmer. Nevertheless the actual opinions of the British to the supposed intentions of the Kremlin in Western Europe are much more highly critical than they are in Paris, especially as the British are known to be no more Germanophile than the French.

So in the next few months, particularly with regard to the European security conference and the MBFR talks, there could be consultative action between London and Paris.

Brezhnev's wooing of the Federal Republic and the wedge that Soviet diplomats are without doubt trying to drive between Common Market countries would leave the French relatively cold if it were not for the fear that Moscow and Washington might get together in some kind of tacit complicity to sap the energy of the Western European Community that is gradually being constituted.

Basically Willy Brandt and Georges Pompidou are in agreement on this matter. But the sweetness and light being radiated from the Kremlin towards the Federal Republic give this country an outstanding dimension in international affairs and the jealousies that were once directed against de Gaulle's alleged hegemonial striving and his policy of European independence could be turned against any privileged diplomatic position Brandt won for this country, which in many ways is a successor to the late General's policy with a West and Ostpolitik stretching from the Atlantic to the Urals. *Peter Scholl-Latour*

(Deutsche Zeitung, 25 May 1973)

■ LEGAL AFFAIRS

Fight against crime wave stepped up

The Bundestag has unanimously approved a new law granting the Wiesbaden-based Federal Crime Bureau greater powers in tracking down international and organised crime.

Minister of the Interior Hans-Dietrich Genscher stated that the department is now on the way to becoming the most modern headquarters for the fight against crime in the whole world.

The Federal Crime Bureau will in future be the main body responsible for tracking down international arms smuggling, drug-peddling, politically-motivated attacks on politicians, members of parliaments and diplomats, forgery and crimes involving the use of explosives.

The law will also improve the Crime Bureau's function as a centre for the exchange of police information, for the mutual support of local police branches and the security of constitutional bodies.

Genscher expressed his appreciation of the fact that all three parties in the Bundestag approved the Bill, adding that the man on the street was more interested in safety and protection than the old question of who should do what.

The new law is an important step towards achieving the security programme approved last year, Genscher claimed.

But tracking down the social causes of crime is an equally important part of the fight against crime. The police and intelligence service must also know they can rely on the political leadership when carrying out their often demanding duties, the Minister stated.

Speaking on behalf of the CDU/CSU in the short debate that followed, Karl Miltner opposed the establishment of a Federal force along the lines of the American FBI. The Federal states should continue to have full power over their police forces, he added.

(Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger, 25 May 1973)

Petitions Committee to be offered greater powers

The Bundestag has unanimously approved the first reading of two Bills concerned with the citizen's basic right of petitioning parliament. The Bills were proposed jointly by the three parliamentary groups and should give the Petitions Committee greater powers.

In future the Petitions Committee will be able to investigate complaints with greater thoroughness than is now the case. Today it can demand no more than written replies from the ministries and months may elapse before its request is met.

If the Bills do enter the statute book the Petitions Committee will be granted the right to demand documents and other information from the administration, interrogate administrative staff, interview petitioners, other persons involved and the relevant specialists, make on-the-spot investigations and obtain help from courts and administrative authorities.

Some 7,500 petitions are addressed to the Bundestag every year, members of the committee stated during the discussion. Only some five per cent of these petitions are successful as the Petitions Committee cannot reverse administrative decisions or the verdicts of a court of law. Under the new laws the Petitions Committee will have greater powers when dealing with the administration however.

Lieselotte Berger, the Christian Democrat deputy who heads the Petitions Committee, recently urged the Bundestag public relations department to provide more information about the Petitions Committee and tell citizens about their rights. The man on the street must know what to do when he has a complaint against authority. Every citizen has the right to ask the Bundestag to amend a law.

Lieselotte Berger believes that strengthening the Petitions Committees will scotch all proposals to introduce an ombudsman on the Swedish pattern. The 27 members of the Petitions Committee will all be ombudsmen.

Wolfgang Fechner

(Neue Hannoversche, 25 May 1973)

Penal reform to go into effect on 1 January 1975

The governing coalition of Social and Free Democrats has obtained a majority in the Bundestag for the Second Penal Reform Law which is now to take effect on 1 January 1975. At the same time some three hundred laws will be modified.

The CDU/CSU Opposition did not want the new legislation to take effect until 1 January 1976. Benno Erhard (CDU) claimed that the delay was necessary so that the Bundestag and provincial assemblies would have sufficient time to discuss the matter.

Spokesmen for the SPD and FDP argued that the current timetable could be adhered to if the committees speed up their work.

(Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger, 25 May 1973)

Social welfare reforms being reviewed by the Bundestag

Members of the Bundestag were nearly all in full agreement during discussions on the latest social reform package and a number of new laws entered the statute book after their third reading.

The laws governing conscientious objectors have now been amended, minimum standards have been set for the accommodation of foreign workers, adoption is to be made easier, educational grant laws extended and improvements introduced in the industrial medicine sector.

The Bundestag unanimously passed a law extending the non-military service conscientious objectors are supposed to do and putting it on an equal footing with military service.

This will result in greater fairness in the system of conscription as conscientious objectors were often able to escape all forms of service because of the shortage of alternative posts.

Conscientious objectors doing this non-military national service can in future be given duties serving the common good, primarily in the welfare sector. They could also be employed in environmental protection.

The Bundestag also unanimously approved a law specifying minimum standards for the accommodation of foreign workers. In future employers will be obliged to ensure that accommodation is adequately large and ventilated, well-lit, protected from rain and noise and equipped with sanitary installations.

The first reading took place of a government Bill proposing the employment of an adequate number of factory doctors and safety technicians related to the size of the concern.

Industrial safety should be impro[ved as] a result and accident and health [...] the factory floor checked. La[bour] Minister Walter Arendt told the Bun[des]tag that an industrial accident occ[urs] every thirteen seconds in the Fed[eral] Republic. A worker is killed every [...] hours.

The maximum annual income [for] qualifying parents for a family allow[ance] for a second child is to be raised [from] 15,000 to 16,800 Marks because o[f the] general increase in salaries. The allow[ance] will be backdated to 1 Januar[y. The] government Bill to this effect [was] referred to the responsible committee [for] further consultation.

Adopting children should be ea[sier in] future. The minimum age of [...] entitled to adopt children is [to be] reduced from 35 to 25. The appr[oval of] the child's parents for the [...] adoption can be replaced by a deci[sion of] the relevant court of law.

Another government Bill propos[es] the educational grant scheme should [...] include all pupils of vocational [...] where attendance does not depend [on a] certificate of proficiency fr[om a] *Realschule*, or secondary modern s[chool].

The first reading also took place [of a] Bill proposing far-reaching reform [of the] laws currently governing criminal p[roce]dure. Criminal procedure should [...] government's opinion by speeded [...] legal position of the guilty [...] improved when a re-trial is ordered [...] court administration amended.

A large number of new regulati[ons were] proposed to ensure that accused [...] are brought to trial within an a[...] period of time as well as to contr[ibute] towards the fight against crime.

(Münchner Merkur, 19 May [1973])

Computers and legal decisions

Judges could well find themselves competing with computers in a few years' time, Dr Josef Fabry of the Ministry of Justice said at a congress held in Munich to discuss legal information systems. Computers would soon be able to reach a verdict in the everyday cases before most courts, he claimed.

"There is however the question of the judge's image," Fabry was quick to point out. "The system must not be allowed to lead to the end of freedom of thought and action in the courtroom."

But the computer is already invading the legal sphere. All delegates attending the congress – the first of its type in the world – agreed that only a computer system could cope with the flood of information.

Judges and lawyers look upon computers with mixed feelings. They do not yet agree whether computers should only be used to cope with all the paperwork or whether they could also take the place of judges and announce verdicts.

Some help with documentat[ion and] paperwork is indispensable. The [...] government and Federal states [...] passed some one hundred thousand [...] of laws and regulations. A million [...] verdicts are reached every year. A[bout] twenty thousand of them are publish[ed in] bulletins because of their g[eneral] significance as precedents.

Literature dealing with the [...] amounts to 23,000 pages a year. As [...] as 65,000 applications for a patent [...] 20,000 wage agreements have to [be] stored in the archives. No judge can [cope] with the flood of information, [...] Hermann Heussner of Kassel stated.

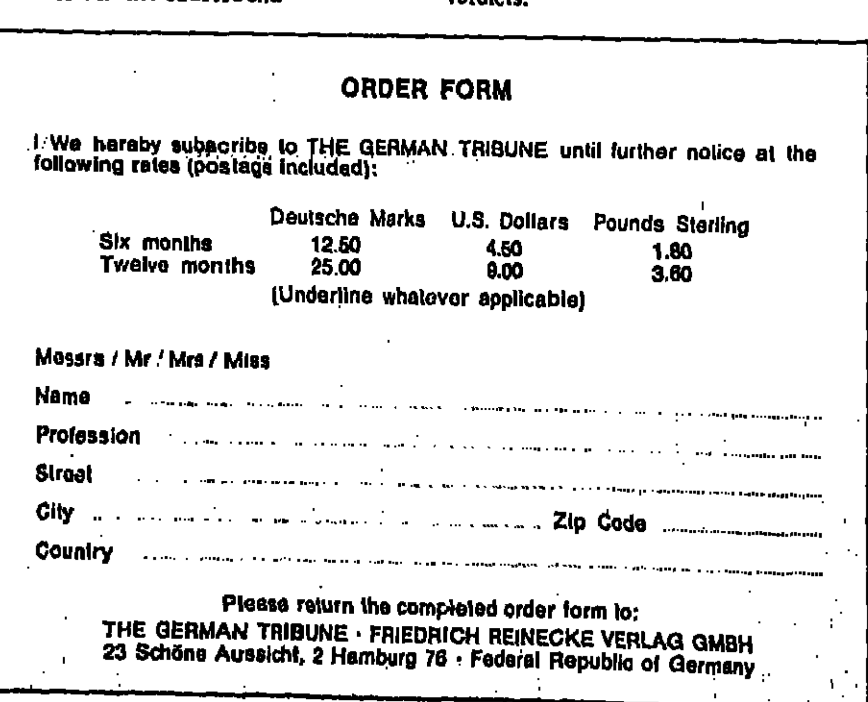
The computer used in court or [...] practice would not have to [...] mistakes. "It is a question of ending [a] shortage of information," Fabry claim[ed]. He added that the call for more speci[alists] to be employed as judges was a[n] admission that the average represen[tative] of the profession was no longer [able to] have the necessary information at h[is] finger-tips whenever it was reque[sted]. Minister of Justice Gerhard Jahn has [...] that the data bank should raise [the] quality of legal practice and the law [...]

This is only the first step [...] computers will take in the legal sp[here]. One delegate stated that the Poles [have] already developed a mathema[tical] method of conducting legislative de[...]. "Our new laws come straight from [the] computer," he announced proudly.

But lawyers in the Federal Rep[ublic] feel this would be dangerous. "La[wyers] and judges would no longer brush [up on] the latest developments in the legal [sphere] and there would no longer be any [...] between individuals," they complain[ed].

Rolf He[...]

(Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger, 25 May 1973)



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■ PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Sociologists prepare list of priorities at Eichholz

Fifty academics from both East and West recently attended a conference organised by the International Sociological Association in Eichholz Academy near Cologne to draw up the priorities of international comparative sociological research.

In their capacity as representatives of the thirty research committees belonging to the International Association they also drew up a programme for the eight International Sociological Congress to be held in Toronto in August 1974.

Their preparations for this congress confirmed that the internationalisation of sociology consists less in encouraging a high standard of international comparative research than in internationalising sociologists or at least making them less provincial.

One of the most interesting factors is the role played by the Soviet Union and the other Eastern European countries belonging to the International Association in an age when the national associations of the Western countries are in a crisis as they are unable to overcome the clash between empiricists, who are mainly concerned with proof, and theoreticians who are more interested in change.

Sociologists from the Eastern European countries are tending to support the empirical wing of European sociology which seeks concrete findings. The spread of opinion surveys in the Soviet Union in recent years is only one indication of this trend.

The growth of sociology into an ideology seems to be a direct reflection of the stability of values in the society in question. This subject was discussed at

Frankfurter Allgemeine

length after a talk by Ben-David of the Hebrew University in Jerusalem.

Turning to the institutionalisation of science, he stated that science had stepped into the breech left by the decline of the compulsory State religion in seventeenth-century England.

But science itself faces the danger of becoming a religion (the goddess of reason) the more dogmatically it insists there is no alternative to its rulings. Where a State religion dominates, sciences need not necessarily be threatened to a greater extent by the spread of ideology as long as there is stable rule.

That could be one reason why positivist sociology is meeting with more and more response in the Soviet Union, suggested Herr Scheuch, the Cologne sociologist who acted as host at Eichholz as a member of the International Sociological Association's executive. Besides, empirical research can be used to change or stabilise society.

It does not therefore appear coincidental that the greatest stir at the conference was caused by the work of Polish sociologist Podgorecki, who was unable to attend as he was not granted an exit visa to come to Eichholz.

Podgorecki's views are based on empirical studies conducted in Denmark, Sweden, Holland, Belgium, Britain, the United States and the Federal Republic as well as his own studies in Poland.

He believes it indefensible to simplify the issue by describing a country's legal structure merely as the extension of its political and economic system though it is equally incorrect to deny that there are political and economic influences on the law.

Podgorecki claims that the legal order is more important in modern industrial societies than in countries such as Korea where law is not looked upon as a basic element of a generally accepted system of values.

The law can become a substitute for matter-of-course elements that no longer function until procedure eventually represents an alternative to agreement on content. Abstract procedure thus becomes binding. Approval of the legal order does not necessarily involve approval of a particular scale of values or political order.

Respect for the law is particularly pronounced in the Federal Republic. While 45 per cent of the Poles and 47 per cent of the Dutch claim that laws must be obeyed even when they are wrong or unjust, the proportion is as high as 51 per cent in the United States and 66 per cent in the Federal Republic.

But Podgorecki points out that this legalistic view is the exception rather than the rule. He warns that absolute recognition of the law could lead to the acceptance of the social system which would pave the way for any skilfully presented ideology.

Podgorecki's work proves that international comparative sociology in East and West has made great progress in drawing up definitions for the same concepts and realised that the same terms can mean different things in different countries.

But it is difficult to track down these apparent correlations. Sociologists must still examine whether the legalistic point of view prevailing in this country also plays a role in the current political situation – the spontaneous opposition to all attempts by extremists and reformers to undermine a legal system recognised in principle as practical.

Those sociologists in the International Association who specialise in law plan to give priority in their future comparative research to examining the links between a legal system and a population's ideas about justice and injustice.

To take a second example, the sociology of organisations wishes to give priority to examining the formation and exercise of power by organisations and the conflicts arising between organisations in particularly developed countries.

Psychiatry wishes to draw up a more detailed lost of symptoms commonly registered in various countries. Delegates were therefore extremely interested in a talk by John Clausen of Berkly who spoke of the findings of comparative investigations into mental diseases in various countries. Herr Scheuch added a few statistics of his own.

Chombart de Lauwe, the French sociologist, proposed identifying the needs of a country before they arose by tracing the development of these needs in comparable societies and considering the differences in the state of development in order to forecast when and where problems would occur.

Views vary as to what sociology can achieve. In those countries where the science is only just becoming established it is expected to overcome all universal evils. Expectations are anything but high in Scandinavia and the United States where it has become so institutionalised.

But sociology is short of money, as Herr Scheuch pointed out. Professor Mshvenieradze, the Unesco observer, was nonetheless impressed by what it had accomplished and promised the International Association the financial backing of his organisation.

Kurt Reumann

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 28 May 1973)

Call for more freedom for the journalist

Governments have a duty to keep part of their policy secret for a certain period of time, it was claimed at a two-day discussion of secrecy in foreign policy held at Bonn. But citizens of any democratic State have the right to be informed of as much as possible.

Eleven politicians, journalists and lawyers spoke at the conference organised jointly by the Social Science Research Institute run by the Konrad Adenauer Foundation and the School of Foreign Service at Georgetown University, Washington.

There was no shortage of subjects for discussion. Scandals and affairs in both the United States and the Federal Republic provided those taking part with sufficient material.

New York lawyer Harry McPherson pointed out the problems involved by referring to the publication of the Pentagon papers in the *New York Times*. He asked when the Senate and when the American press was responsible for distributing confidential documents of this type.

Professor Wilhelm Kewenig, the Kiel lawyer, claimed that the State had the right to maintain a certain degree of secrecy though the term "certain degree" is subject to interpretation.

Kewenig described public control of policies as an indispensable element and pointed out that foreign policy is often regarded as of greater importance than normal policy" though this view is compatible with the basic structure of democracy.

Comparing the basic right of press freedom with the secrecy commonly practised within this country's civil service, Kewenig concluded that there was a general trend towards the greater protection of the principle of publicity in the Federal Republic though legislation was still directed towards secrecy.

Bearing in mind the American way of life, Lucius D. Battle, former U.S. Ambassador and Under Secretary of State, pointed out that the ratio of public to private in American politics was often determined by what he called personal relations.

But he suddenly turned serious and claimed that events in Korea or Vietnam would have probably proceeded differently if the Senate had not been badly or falsely informed by the Administration.

He then drew on his personal experiences when he stated that diplomacy can never be totally secret or totally public. As former American Ambassador in Cairo, he said he had never managed to convince President Nasser that President Johnson had to overcome serious difficulties on the home front every day despite the support he had from the majority of electors.

Conrad Ahlers, government spokesman from 1969 to 1972, added that Soviet party leader Leonid Brezhnev had never been able to understand why Bonn needed years to change its policy while the Supreme Soviet took only half a day.

Ahlers was the first speaker to turn to the main problems of the subject as they affected Bonn. Unlike former Cabinet colleagues Egon Bahr and Horst Ehmke, Ahlers, now an SPD deputy in the Bundestag, stated: "It would have been very good for the reputation of our policies if we had revealed them voluntarily."

He opposed all legal proceedings against journalists: "The press is entitled to print everything it receives. It is the State's business to guard its secrets. If it is unable to do this, that is its own fault."

Ahlers criticised the fact that a system of Cabinet diplomacy still reigned although under a democracy no great steps forward can be taken in foreign

Hannoversche Allgemeine

policy without the previous support of the public.

Looking back to the leak of the Bahr papers and other drafts for the treaties with Eastern European countries, Ahlers claimed: "Politics runs the risk of discrediting itself if it attempts to keep more secrets than necessary. Our country itself was not harmed but diplomacy and bureaucracy will only be harming themselves if they continue to behave as they did in past centuries."

After the American speakers had referred a number of times to the shadows cast by the Watergate scandal, Ahlers pointed to Lord Lambton and Lord Jellicoe as "more amusing examples" of the way the public learned of events which had been kept secret.

Television journalist Gerhard Löwenthal compared the publication of the Pentagon papers and the Watergate scandal with the publication of the Bahr papers: "The difference is that journalists in the United States receive the Pulitzer Prize while those in the Federal Republic are threatened with the public prosecutor."

Löwenthal justified some of his own actions by pointing out the questionable system of morals that, he claimed, dominated the Federal Republic's current foreign policy. The truth is only admitted when there is a parliamentary majority to back it up. As this policy assumed the proportions of a conspiracy he saw himself forced to publicise certain matters. The Americans did not comment upon this point.

Instead John Goshko, the *Washington Post* correspondent, spoke of everyday occurrences: "I have known journalists who have heartily embraced me only to tell me hair-raising lies at the same time. I also know various types of journalist and newspaper."

Professor Alexander Bickel, defence lawyer for the *New York Times* in the Pentagon papers case, claimed that it was only an inner mechanism in political administration that was responsible for the production of billions of pages of classified material.

Only a sense of responsibility and, at the same time, antagonism could thereby by expected from the two sides – both politicians and the press as the representatives of the public. There are no firm rules governing the idea of freedom of opinion anyway, he concluded.

Rudolf Strauch

(Hannoversche Allgemeine, 28 May 1973)

■ INDUSTRY

Ludwig Bölkow and his MBB aerospace company

President Gustav Heinemann believed he was "standing on the threshold of the year 2000". He was in a forest. He was on the factory floor of Messerschmitt-Bölkow-Blohm in the Hohenkirchner Forest, near Munich, where the most powerful weapons in the Federal Republic are made.

MBB satellites orbit the planets and MBB underground trains travel beneath the pavements of Munich. MBB rockets ripped open New Delhi's tanks in the India-Pakistan war and MBB laboratories on wheels are used to check air pollution levels and help make life more pleasant for people in this country.

With products that serve research and warfare, that destroy life and help preserve life MBB last year had a turnover of 1,100 million Marks.

* About one half of this country's total



Ludwig Bölkow

aerospace potential is provided by MBB.
* MBB has taken out more than 3,500 patents.
* Of the company's more than 18,000 employees one in three is an egghead.

Twenty-eight years after War's end this country's technical elite is concentrated to an unparalleled degree in this one armaments concern.

One factor that has already been noted in the United States is the way the technological emphasis can shift from one place to another — in America it was from New England to California, while in the Federal Republic it has been a shift towards the south: Krauss-Maffei, Siemens, Porsche, Daimler-Benz, IBM and MBB are all situated south of the River Main.

The creator and motive force behind the important think-tank, head of the firm that brings death and at the same time fights off death, a firm that means more to the Federal Republic than Krupp and Springer, is a man whose name is not known to 93 out of every 100 Germans: Ludwig Bölkow.

His business: being the brains of the Federal Republic.

Bölkow believes in the power of technology in much the same way as de Gaulle believed in the supremacy of France. "Technology can solve any problem that it faces," he said.

But Bölkow's belief in progress ends at the point where it can no longer be analysed by a computer. He is fascinated by the future, but not hypnotised by it.

He is a *technosopher*. His favourite author is Jay Forrester, the Professor of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, who was the first to put forward the thesis of the finite nature of growth, but who unlike his decadent contemporaries saw these limitations as an incentive towards greater efforts.

Bölkow's calculation was: "It is precisely these finite limits to growth that demand growing technology.

In his spacious office there are many silent witnesses to this firms conviction he holds: almost fifty models of things MBB has created — pointers to the world of tomorrow, science fiction in miniature, souvenirs of the future, made in Germany.

The producer of these fantastic items is far less striking than the products themselves. He has greying hair, wears glasses and his suits appear to be somewhere between off-the-peg or the fifty-shilling tailor.

When he speaks it is like recitation, swift and flowing, but often in chopped up fragments of sentences, as if he is having trouble trying to convert mathematical formulae into grammatical sentences. The only luxuries he has granted himself are a couple of holiday homes one on Sylt in the North Sea and the other at Ache in the Tyrol.

Bölkow is a non-smoker and keen on keep-fit, enjoying hiking, mountaineering, skiing and swimming. He has been married to Annerose for 31 years and is father of two adult children. Being born on 30 June 1912 Bölkow belongs to that generation that is now at the helm in the Federal Republic, the sixty year-olds, from Brandt to Springer, General Steinhoff of the Luftwaffe to Herr Zahn, the Chairman of Mercedes-Benz.

Among the honours he has won are the Golden Diesel Medal, the Pioneer Chain of Windrose (an honour he shares with astronaut John Glenn and space pioneers Hermann Oberth and Wernher von Braun) and the Bavarian Order of Merit.

Ludwig Bölkow was born in Mecklenburg. His father was a foreman in the original factory of the Dutch aircraft manufacturer Anthony Fokker in Schwerin. Before he left school Ludwig Bölkow was keen on gliding. Having passed his *Abitur* in Schwerin he joined the plane manufacturers Heinkel in Warnemünde and the Deutsche Werke in Spandau. Then Bölkow went on to study mechanics and aircraft construction at the Technische Hochschule, Berlin. He was in the Hitler Jugend and later joined the SA.

During the War years Bölkow joined Messerschmitt, at the time Germany's most famous aircraft manufacturer and a prominent man in the Third Reich.

Bölkow was head of the project when the most successful fighter plane of the Second World War, the Me-109, was built. He had a large say in the development of the first jet fighter in operation, the Me 262.

The Allies imprisoned and interrogated Bölkow at the end of the War. When lucrative offers from abroad for his knowhow came he rejected them all.

Instead he joined a construction company in Stuttgart. In 1948 at the age of 36 he set up his own engineering office with a staff of three. His firm worked on new principles of building, machines for converting rubble from building work and mechanical methods of transportation.

In 1955 this country regained sovereignty after a decade and once again was able to do something that had been denied for ten years — fly. Bölkow took his engineering office — now with a staff of over thirty — to new quarters at Echterdingen airfield near Stuttgart.

Bölkow Developments was founded with financial support from Wolfgang Essen of Hamburg. Bölkow's first development was a weapon, the anti-tank rocket "Cobra". No outside producer showed any interest in it so Bölkow began manufacturing it himself. This was the beginnings of Bölkow Apparatebau in Nabern/Teck.

Shortly afterwards Bölkow made another move, taking with him 400 staff. He went to the site of the former aeronautical research institute in the south-east of Munich in the forests of Ottobrunn and Brunnthal. He is still there today.

He is a visionary and he soon realised that his concern was too small to meet the demands of the future. Together with Ernst Heinkel Aircraft Manufacturing and Messerschmitt he formed Entwicklungsring Süd in 1959.

In 1965 foreigners began to take an interest in the company. America's Boeing Company and France's Nord Aviation each took over a third share in Bölkow GmbH.

And a further three years later with some assistance from Bonn the Bölkow company was joined by Messerschmitt AG and then the Hamburg Aeroplane Company belonging to Hamburg's shipping family Blohm.

Thus MBB was created. Nestor Willi Messerschmitt became the Chairman of the Supervisory Board while Ludwig Bölkow and Werner Blohm headed the business management section.

The young concern was in need of capital. The Bavarian state institute for construction finance bought shares. Siemens, in need of Bölkow's know-how and August Thyssen Foundries followed suit, the two of them linked together with France's Aéro Spatiale in Fides GmbH (Aéro Spatiale followed Nord Aviation, the previous Bölkow partner).

Today the concern has factories in Schrobenhausen, Nabern, Manching, Lampoldshausen, Donauwörth, Augsburg, Laupheim, Wilhelmshaven, Stade and Hamburg.



Werner Blohm

The products manufactured there have mystery names such as Bo 105, ET 403, A 300 B, and MRCA, or fantastic titles such as Javelin, Phoebus, Hot and Milan (a bird of prey). Hot does not mean hot, but stands for Haut subsonique Optiquement teleguide d'une tube, and Milan has nothing to do with birds of prey or Italian towns in this instance but is an abbreviation of Militie d'Infanterie léger

Willi Messerschmitt

(Photo: [illegible])

Antichar — they are in fact [illegible] ant-tank weapons.

A ninth of MBB's business is to[illegible] weaponry, more than two-thirds [illegible] company's turnover is aircraft m[illegible]ture and one seventh is space tech[illegible] Ottobrunn is now the site of Eu[illegible] most modern integration centre [illegible] satellites — this space centre cost [illegible] million Marks.

In the past five years a total of [illegible] million Marks has been invested, the [illegible] of it in the plane manufacturing [illegible]. What Bölkow calls "our [illegible] problem" in this sector, the airbus [illegible] taken up thirty per cent of [illegible] investments.

Europe's market is too small for [illegible] Airbus, but Chairman Browne of [illegible] Civil Aeronautics Board has said [illegible] don't want the Airbus over here."

Bölkow said: "Projects like the [illegible] can only be afforded once by Europe[illegible]

But Bölkow can afford experim[illegible] virtually all other spheres of techn[illegible]

* Magnetic cushion vehicles from [illegible] are being tried out on a test stretch [illegible] Black Forest and have already [illegible] 500 km/h (well over 300 mph).
* The Cabin Taxi System, known [illegible] running on hard rubber wheel[illegible] electric motors is to be tested in [illegible] this year on a stretch built in conj[illegible] with Demag.
* At the Olympics last year B[illegible] introduced eleven new electro[illegible] with plastic bodies.
* Another MBB development is [illegible] offshoot of the third stage of [illegible] European rocket. An ultra-light [illegible]sion-resistant container capable of w[illegible]standing high pressures was required[illegible] glass-fibre coiling technique was deve[illegible]ed. Today MBB issues licences for [illegible] tanks to be built by this procedure.

The Quality of Life has bec[illegible] something of a watchword for MBB's [illegible] civil engineering division. Its projects [illegible] this sphere range from the development [illegible] artificial hearts to the construction [illegible] radio telescopes.

But MBB would not have bee[illegible] realise its most successful deve[illegible] had it not been for State backing [illegible] per cent of MBB's turnover comes [illegible] government contracts. Ludwig [illegible] stresses that these are not subsid[illegible] in the end "it is the demands of [illegible] that set the pace of technical pro[illegible]

And Bölkow denies that fat profi[illegible] to be made from this: "All public [illegible] contracts are checked for price [illegible] fine-tooth comb. There is not much [illegible] for making huge profits."

In the past couple of years [illegible] annoyance of Professor Messe[illegible] and certain members of the Blohm [illegible] MBB has not issued dividends. Pro[illegible] kept in the firm as an investment [illegible] future.

The idea of turning MBB [illegible] national research institute [illegible]

Continued on page [illegible]

THE ECONOMY

Is the export boom threatening stabilisation policies?

[illegible]loomy forecasts have issued from the [illegible]ivory tower. The renowned Rhine-[illegible]Westphalia Institute for Economic [illegible]earch (RWI) in Essen, which is not [illegible]icularly interested in the question of [illegible]itical realities, is dubious of the [illegible]spects of success for the government's [illegible]ilisation programme if it is not [illegible]mpanied by a further revaluation of [illegible] Mark.

[illegible]or this programme imposes a [illegible]lateral burden on demand in this [illegible]untry for consumer and capital [illegible]vestment goods. Demand from abroad, that is to say this country's exports, would continue to grow unabated.

A few weeks previously other economic research institutes in this country called for alterations in parity. They said that these were unavoidable if other European countries did not decide to implement stabilisation policies of their own. And so far none of them has done so.

At this point in time the complaints from West German exporters about the revaluation of the Mark in February had scarcely died down. Our exports had become thirteen per cent dearer in the dollar zone and more than five per cent more expensive in other areas.

The development of Federal Republic trade			
Year	Imports	Exports	Balance
	in milliard Marks		
1965	71,7	70,4	1,2
1966	80,6	72,7	8,0
1967	87,0	70,2	16,9
1968	99,6	81,2	18,4
1969	113,6	98,0	15,6
1970	126,3	109,6	15,7
1971	136,0	120,1	15,9
1972	149,0	128,8	20,3

But this country's exports seem to have withstood the heat of the two currency crises without any scars. Those in Bonn responsible for determining economic policies who had hoped that revaluation of the Mark would lead to a slackening of imported inflation are no longer so optimistic.

The Federal Statistics Office in Wiesbaden is convinced that the export surplus of 13 to 14 milliard Marks, for which the government says it is aiming in its annual economic report, will be well surpassed in reality.

The export surplus is the first quarter of 1973 was 5,900 million Marks, as compared with 4,500 million Marks in the corresponding period of last year.

The motor manufacturing industry which exported more than 57 per cent of its output last year expects to increase this proportion in 1973. In the first three months of this year domestic sales were up by eight per cent and exports by 15 per cent.

Even Volkswagen which is so dependent on the dollar zone and has thus been so hard hit by revaluations and devaluations is hoping its 1973 sales will be up on last year's. VW has initiated overtime and special shift work to try to cope with excessive demand from home and abroad.

The chemicals industry reports that its production capacities are working at 98 per cent. A spokesman for the industry, Paul Ungerer, chairman of the board of Degussa, said during the Hanover Fair that the industry was attempting to cut back exports. Demand from abroad for chemical products was up by 28 per cent in January, 24 per cent in February and ten per cent in March on the corresponding months of last year. Domestic demands could not keep up with this.

The association of Federal Republic machinery manufacturers, which has plenty of practice in complaining about business developments of association members, is saying at present: "We never imagined that revaluation would have such little effect on effective export figures."

Demand from abroad in this branch was up by 27 per cent in March and in February increased by a phenomenal 46 per cent — both figures being considerably higher than those for domestic demand.

As in other branches of the economy machinery manufacturers view the impetus for booming business as coming from abroad and particularly from the "idiotic American boom". In the lee of this demand from abroad domestic business is flagging following the steps taken by Bonn and the Bundesbank to check demand.

Even shipyards which are traditionally key witnesses to the sensitivity of this country's exports to manipulation of parities are at the moment free of worries.

Bremer Vulkan which took orders for five supertankers at the end of last year is negotiating for a further seven, all for export. AG Weser has contracts for more than six supertankers, each over 380,000 tons. Howaldtswerke-Deutsche Werft a part of Salzgitter AG which expressed its concern over the future of its subsidiary as recently as March, received a bonus of contracts for two foreign liquid transport containers worth 500 million Marks a few days ago.

Steel manufacturers in this country are virtually unaffected by the two revaluations this year. There is a world-wide steel boom sparked off by the United States. Hans Dichgans, executive board member of the iron and steel economic association, expects that this country's production of crude steel will increase from 43 to 50 million tons this year, a rise of about 14 per cent.

He announced very high demand from abroad for rolled steel. He finds the experts' warnings about excessive exportation of steel exaggerated and points out that this branch of the economy employs 800,000 people.

Bundesbank and Bonn government experts for the moment consider warnings about the growth in exports exaggerated. Unlike most of the research institutes they deny that the government's stabilisation measures which have still to come into force could be undermined by outside influences.

This country's exports have risen by 15 per cent within six months. According to the economic investigations of Ifo the expectations of this country's exporters for future business dealings are today far greater then they were prior to the last revaluations. Nevertheless Norbert Bub, an economic expert at the Bundesbank views this country's high level of imports as virtually compensating the export boom. Since the Bonn government and Bundesbank floated the Mark and this took a step in the right direction returns from the export business had not created an excess of liquid cash in circulation.

This argument which is obviously underestimated by RWI and Ifo is contrasted by Klaus Dieter Arndt (SPD), the president of the Federal Institute for Economic Research (DIW).

Arndt says that not everyone has understood that "since March we have been living in a different world". At the time the Bundesbank was released from its obligation to buy up unlimited dollars at a fixed rate. In addition Arndt considers the braking effect of the Bundesbank's credit policy to be greater than the acceleration provided by the export boom.

And finally Arndt like many other observers, expresses some doubt about the validity of figures for in-coming orders and exports. These have scarcely been influenced by the latest currency-policy decisions.

Important trading partners		
	Exports	Imports
Country	in milliard Marks 1972	
France	19,4	18,2
Holland	15,2	17,6
USA	13,8	10,8
Italy	12,6	13,9
Belgium	12,3	13,0
Switzerland	8,8	3,7
Austria	7,5	2,7
Britain	7,0	4,6
Sweden	6,0	3,2
Total	149,0	128,8

Industries dependent on exports		
		percentage
Heavy industry		42
of which:	machinery	44
	motor industry	52
	electro-industries	24
Consumer goods		17
of which:	clothing	11
	household goods	29

Similar doubts were expressed by State Secretary Otto Schlecht of the Economic Affairs Ministry. He maintains that increasing Federal Republic exports have not made the Mark stronger. For this reason Schlecht cannot understand why the demand is being made for a renewed revaluation.

Nonchalance about further economic developments has been heard from the body that spent much of last year scolding the government for its economic policies — the Savers' Association.

Its executive manager Werner Steuer points out that companies in this country — unlike banks — still have plenty of cash to play with. This makes their export dealings much easier.

The better the government's credit brakes bite and the longer Frankfurt and Bonn can prevent a renewed flood of dollars into this country the thinner this "cloak of money" will rub.

Money for further investments would then be at a premium, the economic cycle would start its downward trend and it is possible that prices would sink somewhat. Indeed after the seven-month float of 1971 the increase in consumer prices was cut back from 5.9 to 5.1 per cent for a time.

The more effectively demand at home can be stemmed the more production capacities become free to manufacture for the export market. But even if our export surplus continues to rise even further it would not mean the end of all hopes of stabilisation. If the Mark became stronger within the framework of floating in the EEC an "adjustment" would be necessary, as Herr Schlecht calls it.

But after the Mark had been revalued against the seven other currencies floating in the EEC bloc the joint float would be continued. The Bundesbank would not be required to buy up foreign exchange.

In Bonn it is known that the prospects for a gradual calming down of prices would be brighter if the other countries involved in the bloc floating would pursue a policy of stabilisation.

The Federal Republic carries on about half of its foreign trade with these countries at fixed exchange rates. Thus this country must pay for the sins of omission in these countries with regard to stabilisation.

But even plans to make it easier to import items more cheaply from outside countries were rejected recently by French Foreign Minister Michel Jobert. According to Count Otto Lambsdorff (FDP), a Bonn expert on economics, such lowering of customs barriers would have little more than a psychological effect. Our fellow Europeans cannot be made to enthuse about a tighter credit and government spending policy.

Nevertheless, our Commissioner in Brussels Wilhelm Haferkamp is not losing heart. He plans to present a European stabilisation programme on 28 June that would be similar to the steps being taken in this country.

He even believes that he has discerned growing interest for such a move in European capitals. Haferkamp hopes that if his programme is accepted it will cut the high level of economic growth and investment in Europe.

Dieter Piel

(Die Zeit, 25 May 1973)

Continued from page 6

appeal to Ludwig Bölkow: "We need the controlling forces of productivity and the state of the market."

But since the beginning of this year it has become clear that the State is stretching out its hand more and more in the direction of this national think-tank. The eyes of Bonn are lighting up with hunger for MBB. The state of Bavaria has obtained shares with a nominal value of [illegible]900,000 Marks at a cost of 23 million. These amount to 7.8 per cent, of which [illegible] per cent were obtained from Professor Messerschmitt and 2.8 per cent from the Blohm family.

A further 5.93 per cent has been held for years by the nationalised Bayrische Landesanstalt für Aufbau-Finanzierung. So the State of Bavaria needs just a little more than six per cent to obtain the blocking minority in MBB, which is fixed at twenty per cent. Ludwig Huber, the CSU Finance Minister of Bavaria, who is already on the MBB supervisory board, is aiming to abtain just such a key holding in the firm.

In its contract with the Blohm family the state of Bavaria has said that it will buy the next two per cent of shares from them when it makes further purchases of MBB shares. Now the Blohm family is busily trying to pool the votes of its fourteen members to prevent individual members of the family arranging transactions on their own.

Commenting on the purchasing of shares by the state of Bavaria Ludwig Bölkow (popularly known as Bavaria's new King Ludwig) says: "This is recognition of the achievements of the company. I welcome this development."

The reason he welcomes it: "The problem that we engineers cannot solve with all out technology is the economic, political, social question — where shall we get the money?"

Nevertheless it is certain that for as long as he can do so Bölkow will prevent his company's becoming totally dependent on the state. He says that MBB needs the economis power of Europe.

Instead of leaning more heavily on Bavaria or the State he is looking for new partners in the aeronautics industry, especially in Britain, France and The Netherlands. One can expect a letter or two to be added to the formula M-B-B, before long.

(Wirtschaftswoche, 25 May 1973)

■ AUTOMOBILES

Introducing Volkswagen's *Passat*

Hamburger Abendblatt

Volkswagen have made short shrift of a legend cultivated for decades. The air-cooled, rear-mounted engine (VW slogan: "air never freezes") is no longer considered to be the be-all and end-all of automotive engineering.

Its place is being taken with a vengeance by the water-cooled, front-mounted engine developed by VW's Audi NSU division, and the current 1600 range is being replaced by a version of the Audi 80 to be marketed under the name Passat (German for trade wind).

The story began with a ban. VW managing director Heinrich Nordhoff refused Audi design engineer Kraus permission to develop a new model with front-wheel drive. Kraus went ahead all the same, with the tacit approval of Rudolf Leiding, then his managing director at Audi.

The result, the four-door Audi 100, was such a success that Kraus extended the range and went on to design the Audi 80 family saloon.

Meanwhile times have changed in Wolfsburg. The 411 was the first Volkswagen faithful to Prof. Nordhoff's rear-mounted principle which was not an unqualified success.

Kurt Lotz, Nordhoff's successor as managing director, thereupon adopted the NSU K 70, which was further developed after the NSU take-over and soon, boasting the VW emblem, became the first Volkswagen ever to sport front-wheel drive and water cooling.

The problems Wolfsburg faced grew no less serious, though. Sales stagnated, profits declined, and the K 70, a brand-new model, proved too expensive to manufacture.

Lotz was forced to resign and his successor, Rudolf Leiding, came out strongly in favour of standardisation. Like Opel, Ford, Daimler-Benz and BMW, the Volkswagen range is in future to consist of a few basic models to which variations can inexpensively be made.

This being the case, it was only logical for Leiding to transform the successful Audi 80 (1,200 a day are currently rolling off the Ingolstadt assembly-lines) into a Volkswagen.

The alterations made are limited in extent. Wolfsburg's new family saloon boasts a fast back reminiscent of French counterparts and circular headlights arranged in a wide strip.

The interior is slightly more comfortable than the Audi's. The seats are better contoured and the gear-change is smoother, having been taken over from the VW 412.

The engine is better soundproofed and less noisy in any case. The 1,500-cc versions are available with treble-shift automatic transmission.

The three engines, developing 55, 75 and 85 DIN horse power respectively, are the same as the Audi 80's. The prices are also virtually the same.

Volkswagen have for once taken over from their Audi subsidiary the complex system of basic prices plus extras that makes buying a car so difficult, confusing buyers as to the price they will really have to pay.

The basic models are rather Spartan. You have to add another 500 Marks for door armrests, a glove compartment light, a tour mileometer and a cigarette lighter.

An adjustable rear-view mirror to prevent glare is, indeed, only available in the TS, the dearest version of them all.

Volkswagen have overshot the optional extras mark with a particular safety feature. A dual-circuit brake system only makes sense provided the driver can see from a glance at his instrument panel that one of the circuits is defective. Yet this indicator is contained in not one of the packages. It is an optional extra no matter which version is bought, and of course costs more.

"Herr Leiding has stated that all Passat models will be fitted out with two reversing headlights and three-point safety belts as a basic," a spokesman for the firm recently announced. But the decision had only just been taken and definitive prices are not yet available.

Even so, the Passat prices will vary little from those of the Audi 80. So it can be forecast with a fair degree of certainty that the price range will be as follows:-

– DM 8,900 for the four-door, 55-hp version

– DM 9,400 for the de luxe version of the 55-hp model

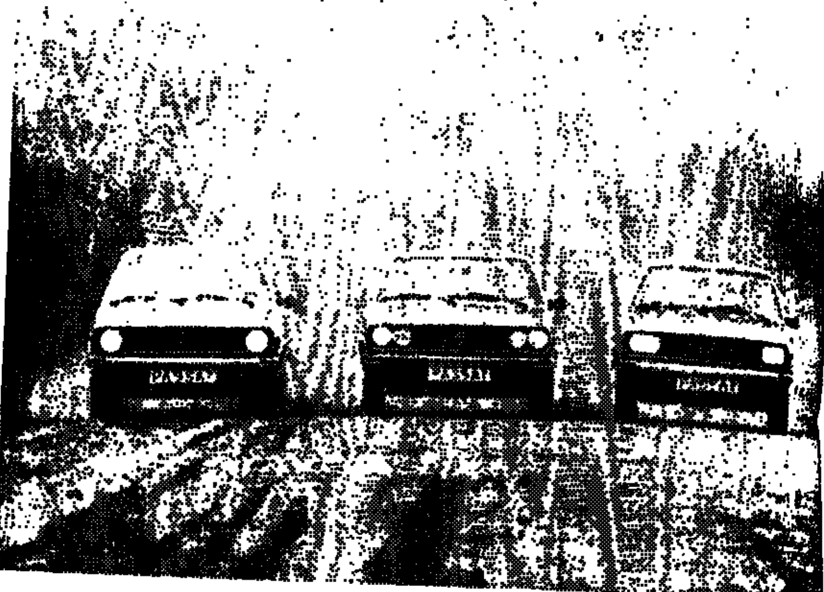
– DM 9,400 for the standard version of the 75-hp Passat 1500 S

– DM 9,900 for the de luxe version of the 75-hp model

– DM 10,300 for the 85-hp sports version of the Passat 1500.

Georg Weden

(Hamburger Abendblatt, 23 May 1973)



(Photo: Volkswagenwerk)

VW's Passat range – Vital statistics

	55-hp version	75-hp version	85hp version
Cubic capacity in cc	1,296	1,470	1,470
Peak performance (DIN hp/rpm)	55/5,500	75/5,800	85/5,800
Compression ratio	8.5:1	9.7:1	9.7:1
Acceleration 0-60 mph in secs: manual/automatic	18/-	13.5/15	12.5/14
Max. speed in mph: manual/automatic gearbox	91/-	100/97	103/101
Fuel consumption in mpg (Imp.): manual/automatic	32/- (premium)	32/30 (super)	32/30 (super)

Bundesbahn plans to be in the black by 1985

Starting in 1986 Deutsche Bundesbahn, the German Federal Railways, plan to make an annual profit of some 3,000 million Marks. This is the target of a new management concept, details of which were published on 24 May.

"We are ready to give the go-ahead. It will be a long journey but a worthwhile one," Bundesbahn managing director Vaerst told journalists in Frankfurt.

The railways propose to enter into negotiations with the Federal government without delay. The aim is to gain a Bonn guarantee of 21,000 million Marks for investments over the next twelve years.

Track-laying on four new routes will cost 15,000 million, improvements to existing permanent way 2,000 million and a new automatic coupling system 4,000 million Marks. The Bundesbahn would like to see its investment costs hived off from mineral oil revenue. Its new concept includes the following measures:

– In order to improve cost efficiency the number of goods stations at which general freight is handled is to be reduced form 1,000 to 400 and cooperation with road hauliers is to be considerably intensified.

– In passenger traffic service improvements are to ensure that a rail journey form one point to another anywhere in the country can be made within a single day. The Cologne-Frankfurt run, which currently takes two hours eleven minutes, will by 1985 take only one hour eleven minutes.

– In local traffic within individual regions services are to be so improved that commuters will spend a maximum of one hour en route.

By way of rationalisation the long-term target is to separate passenger and freight services, initially in terms of time and later in terms of stations served too.

Freight trains are to be given absolute priority at night time in order to ensure that they get from A to B overnight.

The Bundesbahn similarly has plans to diversify its range of transport facilities, particularly road transport.

The new concept has already gained the approval in principle of the Christian Democratic (CDU/CSU) Opposition in the Bundestag and of the railwaymen's trade union.

Federal Transport Minister Lauritzen has stated his intention of paying particular attention to the Bundesbahn's proposals in the course of the projected overall transport policy review.

(Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger, 25 May 1973)

Car sales tail off

Neue Hannoversche

This country's motor industry fac... uncertain future. For the time be... though, the trend remains – only 4.5 ... cent up on the same month last ... During the first three months of ... production was over nine per cent ... last year.

Between January and April the ... rate did not decline substanti... million and a half motor vehicles ... assembly-lines in the Federal Re... representing a mean increase of ... than eight per cent over the corresp... ing period last year.

Private cars accounted for 1,200... units and more, a percentage increa... excess of nine, whereas comm... vehicle production increased by less ... half as much.

Home sales are slumping at the m... many buyers having ordered in a... of price increases, and prospects ... poor up till and including the su... holidays.

According to the Motor Manufact... Association (VDA) domestic orders ... March and April were perceptibly lo... than in the same months last year.

The Bonn government's stab... package has placed an additional da... on sales prospects, commercial custo... and the self-employed being faced w... an eleven-per-cent levy on ca... investments in addition to prices tha... noticeably higher in any case. The ov... increase is a good deal higher than ... previous occasions.

In view of stagnating sales at wha... otherwise the best time of the year ... manufacturers have had no option but ... launch special booster campaigns, o... ing models with various extras for the ... of the standard version, representing ... saving to the customer of between 500 and 700 Marks.

From 1 July car-owners will have ... face additional expenditure. Insura... premiums are going up, as is the price ... petrol. Yet after the holidays the VDA ... expects the new models to boost ... somewhat. Home sales over the year ... whole are expected to be seven per ... up on 1972.

In view of the clouds that are ... gathering on the monetary ho... exports are also something of ... horse. They too seem to be levelling ... The April export figures – 194,000 ... – representat an increase of only ... cent on the same month last year.

Harald Ma...

(Neue Hannoversche, 25 May 1973)

■ ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

Man versus Nature – our planet is becoming uninhabitable

Hans Liebmann: *Ein Planet wird unbewohnbar* (A Planet Is Growing Uninhabitable), A Catalogue of Mankind's Sins from Ancient Times to the Present Day. 240 pp., cloth. Published by Piper Verlag, Munich, 23 Marks.

When fish are blinded, oil slicks glue up birds' plumage, the nostrils of whales and seals are congested, putrefaction provides marine micro-organisms with rich feeding-grounds and huge jelly-fish make bathing at holiday resorts unsafe, there can be no doubt that catastrophe is imminent: a planet is growing uninhabitable.

In his book on this subject hydrobiologist Hans Liebmann sounds a timely warning note. The danger signals, he maintains, ought to make us decide in favour of ecological action while the going is good. He certainly demonstrates how Mankind, from ancient times up till the present, has steadily depleted Nature's reserves.

Two thirds of the Earth's surface are covered with seas and oceans, two thirds of the human body consist of water and even the Pharaohs in Ancient Egypt realised that "each and every thing owes its existence to the element of water" and worshipped the healing powers of H_2O.

Yet nowadays we are busy squandering Nature's reserves of the precious liquid, cheerfully channeling effluent, garbage, sewage and nuclear waste into the briny at such a rate that French marine scientist Jacques Cousteau claims the seas will be dead within twenty years and the oceans the cess-pools of the world.

Pollution in the air, in the water and on dry land has seriously disrupted Nature's balance. Flora and fauna are being laid waste.

On the one hand the population boom continues unabated. In thirty years' time the population of the world will have doubled, yet already three people in four suffer from malnutrition.

On the other a species a year becomes extinct, and the ten inches of topsoil on which humanity depends for food and survival is declining in extent.

The amount of garbage that will be due for disposal in this country over the next decade could be piled as high as the Matterhorn. The food we eat contains daily doses of DDT, mercury and antibiotics.

Even the rainfall contains hydrochloric acid compounded during incineration of PVC packaging material.

Gourmets who eat the contents of an oyster shell with relish also swallow the viruses contained in the polluted seawater – a health hazard that existing mechinical and biological purification plant is powerless to combat.

People who work in city centres breathe in so many toxins in the course of a working day as they would by smoking twenty cigarettes. Mankind today would seem to have a suicidal bent.

Fourteen million cubic metres of effluent per day is the current quota in this country. Two thirds of it is not purified satisfactorily, yet we continue to allow ourselves the luxury of using drinking-water not only for drinking but also for flushing water closets.

In ancient times water was reckoned to be a valuable commodity. In public baths and thermal spas the burghers wallowed in its blessings, soaking in alabaster tubs.

The Romans built aqueducts to bring fresh spring water from the mountains. The proud arches could be seen from far and wide, testifying to the might and glory of the Roman Empire.

Private citizens needed the Emperor's permission before they were allowed to build aqueducts of their own.

The precious liquid was stored in tall tanks serving three sets of pipes. The highest (and the first to run dry) supplied private householders, the second baths and hospitals, the third public springs.

The survival of entire peoples and civilisations has depended on their ability to recognise the natural cycle for what it is and to put it to good use.

The Mayas died of thirst in the tropical forests of Central America. They started by clearing the jungle, planting maize and building wooden temples to Chac, their Rain God, with the lumber.

What they failed to realise that once the foliage was no longer there to protect the soil from the ravages of tropical downpours and that the more jungle they cleared the more soil would be washed away.

Instead, pathetically unaware of the importance of the forest as a storer of water, they continued to suffer from droughts and thirst, the rain not, after all, falling all that regularly, and to frantically build wooden temples with the aim of gaining grace in the eyes of their Rain God.

Medieval man worshipped a good deal, but certainly not water. He had no concept of hygiene, and pious Christians despised the human body and the care thereof.

Fleas, lice and rats spread the plague, smallpox and cholera. Stilts were as common as umbrellas nowadays. How else were people to negotiate the ankle-deep layer of excrement that lined the narrow streets and stank to high heaven?

They were content to draw water from springs and channels within spitting-distance of the cesspools, too. To drink water spelt death.

Erasmus of Rotterdam was horrified by conditions in early sixteenth-century England.

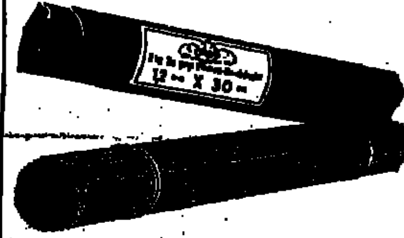
This catalogue of mankind's sins in destroying Nature is continued up till the present day, the difference being that now the problem cannot be evaded by migrating from the barren steppe to virgin land that is still fertile.

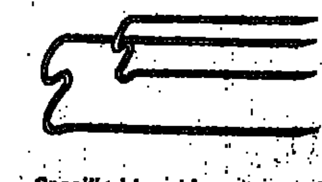
Reconstruction and reconstitution are the tasks now facing Mankind. The Earth is growing increasingly uninhabitable, the author maintains, but claims that problems relating to (as yet non-existent) environmental conservation can still all be solved provided engineers and scientists join forces to prevent the surface of the Earth from being rendered totally barren and providing population growth is brought to a halt.

In order to survive affluent society must make substantial financial sacrifices. Survival or destruction, it is all a matter of money.

Hilke Prillmann

(Die Welt, 24 May 1973)





■ THE THEATRE

Berlin Festival spotlights best productions

NRZ NEUE RUHR ZEITUNG

The two hundred or so theatres in the Federal Republic, West Berlin, Austria and Switzeland put on some two thousand productions a year. The jury for this year's Berlin Theatre Festival had to choose the eight "most remarkable" presentations.

The category "remarkable" is itself remarkable as it is extremely vague and can be used to describe almost any production. It covers Claus Peymann's torturously intensive and artistic production of Bernhard's *Der Ignorant und der Wahnsinnige* at Hamburg Schauspielhaus as it does Peter Zadek's jazzed-up version of Shakespeare's *Merchant of Venice* at Bochum.

It covers Heyme's production of Hebbel's *Maria Magdalena* at Cologne with its attack on complacent bourgeois morals as well as the critical realism of Ulrich Heising's production of *Stallerhof* in Hamburg.

It covers even more: Hans Neuenfels' attempt to stylise Ibsen's *Nora* into a Magritte-type Surrealism at Frankfurt, Erwin Axer's faithful interpretation of Chekov's *Uncle Vanya* at Munich Kammerspiele, which could not be staged in Berlin because of prior engagements, and the two productions which have finally helped West Berlin's Schaubühne am Halleschen Ufer attain the distinction of being the "most remarkable" German-language theatre at present – Peter Stein's productions of Kleist's *Prinz Friedrich von Homburg* and Marieluise Fleisser's *Fegefeuer in Ingolstadt*.

The yardsticks employed by the jury have been disputed as long as the Berlin Theatre Festival has existed in its present form. That is only natural. Not all the productions that the majority of the jury found remarkable could be invited to Berlin and not all the productions invited appeared so remarkable in Berlin that they could be totally accepted by a critical audience.

Compared with Stein's competent interpretation of Kleist's *Prinz von Homburg* for instance, Zadek's Shakespeare production appeared to be no more than the demolition of a classical playwright.

The jury realises that it cannot please everybody all of the time. It therefore decided to publish a list of productions that were disputed and which were eventually ruled out by a majority of its members.

These "remarkable" though finally not selected productions include Zadek's version of Fallada's *Kleiner Mann, was nun?* at Bochum, Büchner's *Leonce und Lena* produced by Luc Bindy in Düsseldorf, the Grüber production of Adamov's *Off Limits* at Düsseldorf, J.-P. Ponelle's production of Shakespeare's *As You Like It* also at Düsseldorf and the Ballhausen and Bosse production of Bronnen's *Exzesse* in Wuppertal.

The complete list of plays which were either selected or proposed for selection contains six West Berlin productions (five from the Schaubühne), five from Hamburg and three each from Frankfurt, Munich and Düsseldorf.

It is these cities that stage the best, most relevant and lively when not the most "remarkable" productions in the German-speaking world today (with the exception of the German Democratic Republic).

This year's Berlin Theatre Festival must be praised for having brought these plays to the attention of further audiences.

Hellmut Kotschenreuter

(Neue Ruhr Zeitung, 23 May 1973)



A scene from Peter Zadek's *Merchant of Venice*



A scene from Peter Stein's production of *Prinz von Homburg*

(Photos: Ilse Buhs)

Film Festival

The selection committee for the 2[illegible] International Berlin Film Festival [illegible] June to 3 July) has announced that [illegible] first film by Spanish director Ma[illegible] Gutiererez, a disciple of Carlos Sa[illegible] entitled *Habla, Mudita* will be premie[red] in Berlin.

The film tells the story of a[n] intellectual who escapes from [the] consumer society and takes it as his d[uty] to teach a dumb girl, who has grown [up] in the wilds, to speak.

Zärtlichkeit der Wölfe by Ulli Lom[mel] about the mass murderer Haarmann is [the] second film to be chosen.

Indian director Satyajit Ray will [be] presenting his latest film Ashani Sa[nket] (Distant Thunder). There will be [the] world premiere of the Canadian film [illegible] *Turn* directed by George Kaczender. [The] American director Robert Aldrich will [be] presenting his film *The Emperor of the North Pole* starring Lee Marvin [and] Ernest Borgnine.

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Ze[itung] für Deutschland, 23 May 1[973])

Psycho-terapist to aid Bremen actors interpret their roles

Peter Stoltzenberg, the future director-general at Bremen theatre, hopes to help actors who have become insecure as a result of the clash between all-powerful producers by appointing a woman psychotherapist who will once again turn them into personalities able to give individual treatment to their roles.

An actor who can choose his own role can be described in popular parlance as having "made it". There is some tradition behind this view and it stretches back as far as the age of the virtuosi.

Josef Kainz wrote from Munich in 1880: "I chose the two roles of Mortimer and Don Carlos myself, the former because my father always liked it when he was alive and the latter as it was in the role of Don Carlos that I received my first overwhelming success in Leipzig." Kainz had made it at the age of 22.

Some ninety years later the Bremen theatre ensemble declared its opposition to this age-old actor's dream when it created a sensation with an unusual production of Goethe's *Torquato Tasso*.

Along with producer Peter Stein the actors and actresses felt that the age of the collective must finally dawn for the theatre as well. Individuality must be replaced by other elements as it inhibits critical understanding and paralyses activity, they claimed. Other ideas would alter the whole traditional system of thought, they added, large-scale changes should be easily attainable.

They are still waiting for a considerable proportion of the expected changes which they thought would follow automatically. Another theatre collective – the one in Berlin to which Peter Stein again provides the impetus – even has its own stars who possess power on the strength of their individuality. The theatre cannot do without them even though their power makes nonsense of true participation in decision-making.

A new way has now been proposed – and once again the stimulus has come from Bremen, Peter Stoltzenberg, at present director-general at Heidelberg, has found that actor participation in decision-making does not prevent the emergence of psychological complications among members of an ensemble. And complications of this type can jeopardise the operation of true participation.

Stoltzenberg, who will be director-general of Bremen theatre from the start of the new season, focuses his attention on the individual actor who, he feels, is in a schizophrenic position as a result of his profession. As the actor is his own working material, he is continually fo[rced] to see himself as an object. In the end [this] exerts too much of a strain upon him.

This difficulty crops up irrespective [of] talent. In 1931 the great Gu[stav] Gründgens was to play the lord in Sa[illegible] *Dompteur* but the effort he put into [the] role made him literally sick.

He eventually wrote to his prod[ucer] Ernst Josef Aufricht, "It is becom[ing] more and more obvious after e[ach] rehearsal that I am not suited for the [part] as I originally assumed ... I do no[t think] that I shall ever be able to utter even [one] word of the part." But Gründgens l[ater] played this role with great success.

Gründgens' example reveals two [re]markable aspects – he immediately [saw] that he was not cut out for the role [but] he also claims that his producer w[as of] the same opinion.

Stoltzenberg feels that most rehe[arsals] are far too stereotyped and unim[agina]tive. Roles are distributed at the [very] outset and typecast actors will find [they] are given the same kind of part [every] time. Producers possess neither [the]

DEUTSCHE ZEITUNG

opportunity nor the necessary psycho[lo]gical expertise to help the individual ac[tor] enter his part from the depths of [his] personality.

"Why do I react in this way, why d[o I] feel that I cannot do this?" [are,] Stoltzenberg believes, questions that m[ust] be answered at rehearsals in order to ra[ise] the standard of later public performance.

These difficulties arise automatica[lly] when people work together and [they can]not be suppressed. They cannot b[e] eliminated productively by drawing u[p] plans for actor participation in decision-making either.

Stoltzenberg hopes that he has found [a] solution to these problems by appointing an expert in psychosomatics for h[is] ensemble in Bremen – Dr Marg[arete] Erdmann of Darmstadt, who was once [an] actress in her own right.

She will help actors enter into th[eir] part before the first rehearsals and p[lans] to adapt her method to the individ[ual] performer's personality. The indiv[idual] actor's imaginative faculties will a[lso be] encouraged in this way and he will f[ind it] easier to interpret his role.

Psychosomatic training should g[ive] actors and actresses gain more experi[ence]

Continued on page 11

■ THE ARTS

Modern Soviet art show in Dortmund

With calm, slightly smiling face the founder of the Soviet State, Vladimir Ilich Lenin, greets the visitor to the exhibition "Russian Realism and Soviet Painting Today" in the Dortmund Museum am Ostwall.

This is one of the high points of the present foreign art festival featuring the USSR, which is at present being held in Dortmund in the Ruhr.

One cannot miss the revolutionary in massive granite and bronze, looking down from his gala position on the second floor over about 125 works of contemporary painting, sketches and 150 examples of Russian Realism from the second half of the nineteenth century.

Despite these revolutionary aspects people flocked to the Russian section on the opening day of the exhibition. The interest was greater than had been expected and obviously bears out the efforts of the museum curators. Attention is given to graphic art of the pre-revolutionary period, the way they made their progress through the modernistic beginnings of the twentieth century stage by stage, and the impression that the present situation with regard to art in the USSR gives.

The exhibition was opened by the Arts Minister Yekaterina Furtsewa and was described by her as a "presentation of the best examples of our multinational painting culture and masterpieces of Classicism".

The decisive reasons for its success do not only lie in its diversity and quality. They may also be found in the clear compilation of the works so that their relationship is clear, even to the layman.

The exhibition covers a broad sweep from the founder of Russian Realism (around 1840) Pavel Feddotov to the representative of modern Russian society painters Alexander Deyneka and Tsarkis Mudrayan, one of the most important Moderns of the Contemporary Russian School.

The exhibition is arranged chronologically according to the phases in the development of Russian art epochs. One phase that is unfortunately missing is that of the October Revolution. The reply to questions why artists such as El Lissitzky and Tatlin are missing is "No comment". They are at present in political disgrace at the Kremlin as members of the so-called Art in the Revolution.

One decisive factor in the Dortmund exhibition is the outstandingly well documented "cohesion of races" among these artists. Officially this is said to reflect "the life of the Soviet people and the allied ideological-aesthetics viewpoints".

The "Old Masters" of Russian painting are the leaders of this circle, paving the way for the Realists, whose works were on exhibition in Baden-Baden at the end of last year. But more interesting to us are the Moderns, whose works form the actual centrepoint of the exhibition.

They are arranged in a fairly loose manner and throw light on the starting point for contemporary painting – for instance Alexander Deyneka with his pictures *Kolkhoz Brigade* and *At the Sea* – and the furthest point that has so far been reached, for instance Tatiana Yablonskaya's *Youth* (1971).

Landscape painting, still lifes and paintings of various genres fill the exhibition hall. Light colourful composition typifies the works, which only rarely submit to a unified artistic conception, presumably as a result of coming from a State made up of many nationalities.

Helmut aus der Mark

(Bremer Nachrichten, 17 May 1973)



Lev Kerbel's *Juri Gagarin*

Tengis Mirzashvili's *Wedding 1971*

(Photos: Katalog)

Continued from page 10

about themselves and their capabilities so that they can find their own way of considering themselves as an object.

Stoltzenberg believes that the first misunderstandings will arise among audiences and his colleagues even before his experiment starts. People today often look upon singers and actresses as some kind of exalted person and are bound to ask whether they really need their own psychotherapist.

Theatre experts could easily look upon the attempt to achieve complete objectivisation as a form of manipulation. Stoltzenberg will be able to counter this attack by pointing out that actors will not be obliged to consult Dr Erdmann.

He claims that so far the ensemble's attitude to his plan has ranged from keen interest to scepticism. "There has been no outright opposition," he comments, "and this gives me hope that there will be cooperation."

Stoltzenberg has already tried out this method over a longish period of time but it was not adopted at Heidelberg theatre because of the financial aspect. At the time there was also the question of development.

The stimulus was supplied by children's theatre. Observations of the conduct of children at play indicated that there were specific points at which the free flow of the imagination into an adult's consciousness ceased, making adult theatre all the poorer.

Horst Thiemer

(Deutsche Zeitung, 18 May 1973)

Hamburg honours its famous son – Johannes Brahms

When Brahms presented himself to Robert Schumann as a pianist in Düsseldorf on 30 September 1853 Schumann spoke of him as a man with a calling and one who must make it.

Nonetheless nine years later Hamburg where Brahms was born and where he played in concerts, churches and taverns did not choose him as head of the Philharmonic concerts but a rather mediocre singer. But then in 1889 his home town felt that it had a duty to do to the 56-year-old composer and made him an honorary citizen.

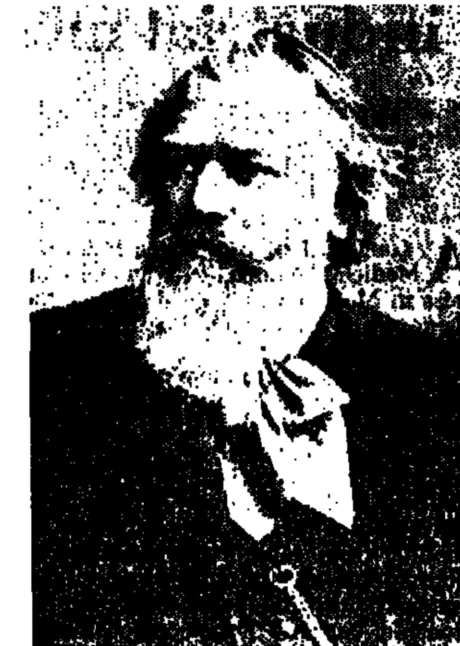
The relationship between Hamburg and Brahms who was born in one of the city's poorer quarters in 1833 has always been equivocal. It is only on rare occasions that the city's troubled conscience makes itself heard.

This is why Hamburg is now holding a Brahms festival to celebrate the unusual 140th anniversary of the composer's birth. Local performers and singers and guests from all over the world will be in Hamburg for 17 concerts in all devoted to Brahms.

Musicians and music students will give recitals and lectures, some of them on such generalised topics as "Brahms and the idea of autonomous music" and hypnotising subjects such as "Johannes Brahms and Anton Brückner" complemented by "Johannes Brahms and Max Reger", obvious ideas such as "Brahms' opinion of himself" and such (un-) romantic subjects such as "Brahms – the unromantic Romantic".

The people of Hamburg are not noted for wearing or dishing out honours but on this occasion Brahms medallions will be awarded – four in all. Of course Rolf Liebermann's services to the Hamburg Staatsoper cannot be overestimated. But who on earth came up with the amazing idea of honouring Liebermann on his departure with a medal devoted to Brahms who in fact had nothing whatsoever to do with opera.

Hamburg's general director of music Wolfgang Sawallisch, who is also leaving and Kurt Stephenson, the feuilletonist among students of music certainly can be connected with Brahms, giving some point to the awards made to them, but the award of the fourth Brahms medallion to Soviet pianist Emil Gilels has presumably more to do with politics than an unbiased attempt by Hamburg to include him among the highest honours being dished out on this occasion.



Johannes Brahms

(Photo: Historia)

Where artistic matters are concerned, Hamburg mayor Peter Schulz has said, it is very hard to determine reliably what is right and what is wrong.

Finally the Free Hanseatic city honoured the 140th anniversary of Johannes Brahms, its distinguished son by commissioning a new work from Mauricio Kagel from Cologne.

This was presumably based on a Brahmsian precept of having the courage to try something new when one has a ready supply of what has been tried and tested and found to be good.

But this cannot approximate to the truth. Brahms was not noted for experimentation and Kagel did not enjoy the fortunate reputation of having been tried and tested even two years ago.

What Kagel presented as his contribution to the Festival is as complicated as its title would lead one to suppose: *Variations Without Fugue for Large Orchestra based on the 'Variations and Fugue' on a Theme by Handel for Piano, Opus 24 by Johannes Brahms (1861/62) by Mauricio Kagel (1971/72).*

Kagel has taken the tonal and rhythmic pattern of the Brahms piano variations and superimposed on them the alienation effects that are typical of his works, with static clusters that hang like limp colour tones over the original lines as if they were a veil of mist, blurring everything.

There are strange iridescent sounds from the flageolet and whispy fragments of sound that are constantly being broken off and sound as if they are being throttled.

Percussion effects of all kinds abound. Some are produced by the deeper stringed instruments having their strings twanged against the frets.

With repeated listening and study one may come to number this among Kagel's best works. The most important realisation is that in listening intently to try to rediscover Brahms one discovers Kagel.

And grins, if nor outright laughter, are in place when, towards the end of the work, Brahms himself suddenly appears and walks slowly through the orchestral ranks, watches the violinists and listens to them without being at all disturbed then comes to the front of the stage and delivers a monologue about himself and his disrupted relationship with Hamburg.

Finally he is led offstage by Händel, the Baroque master who gave him the original theme for his work.

Heinz Josef Herbort

(Die Zeit, 18 May 1973)

■ MEDICINE

Asthma discussed at Munich industrial medicine congress

Süddeutsche Zeitung

A good deal of time at the Industrial Medicine Association's annual congress in Munich was spent discussing the phenomenon of bronchial asthma as an industrial disease.

But delegates were more confused than enlightened in the end though this was due less to the speakers than the mysteries research still has to unravel.

Ernst Stresemann, head of an Asthma clinic in Bad Lippspringe, provided the best evidence for this state of affairs by quoting from reports compiled by an international commission of specialists appointed to find some definition of bronchial asthma. They concluded that asthma could not be defined on the basis of information currently available.

Works doctors are therefore in a dilemma when diagnosing bronchial asthma as a result of work, ordering that the sufferer should be moved to a new post that is less dangerous to his health, recognising his complaint as an industrial disease and consequently providing grounds for compensation.

If there is no exact definition of what asthma is, how is a doctor to decide whether individual cases of bronchial asthma are allergic, primarily toxic or caused by chemical irritation?

Psychosomatic specialist Arthur Jores feels that mental factors are responsible for asthma and could certainly play a role in all cases of the complaint, irrespective of the way it originally manifested itself. But industrial medicine has so far completely ignored this view because of the mystery surrounding asthma.

In practice diagnosis depends more or less on probability as it is impracticable and far too expensive to send every single case to a specialist. This raises an old problem of the welfare state – should the cause be traced according to the evidence that can be found or should a more pragmatic attitude be adopted and more emphasis placed on giving help to the patient?

One of the aims of medical science is to track down allergic agents and toxic substances found in the working world. Millers and bakers have been found to be allergic to flour-dust, printers have contracted asthma through the substances contained in print. Silk-weavers and shoe-dyers have also become asthmatic because of the materials with which they work.

Dockers have been affected by the dust of raw coffee and workers in coffee-processing industries have contracted the same strain of asthma. Carpenters contract asthma after inhaling sawdust, zoologists after breathing in insect dust, animal hair or a variety of other substances.

Skin tests do not always provide convincing evidence. People do not spend all their time at work and are subjected to a large number of toxins and allergic agents in everyday life.

Labour medicine is therefore a forerunner of "ecological medicine", Herbert Blaha, the Gautlingen pneumologist, claimed. Any type of medicine describing itself in such lofty terms must above all improve the health situation of working men and not let itself be tied down to providing grounds for compensation.

Blaha put forward a number of examples to illustrate how difficult it was to differentiate asthma contracted at work from asthma contracted in urban surroundings. The general ecological risk overlaps the specific professional risk in the modern industrial society, he claimed and concluded that labour medicine had to be general medicine and general medicine labour medicine if the situation was to be clarified at all.

Despite the difficulty involved in defining bronchial asthma, it is clear that complaints of this type must be classified as a sub-section of the diseases obstructing the respiratory system.

Even slight restrictions of the respiratory function can be determined by means of simple methods and equipment which have gained the interest of more and more medical practitioners recently.

Asthma resulting from an allergy to certain toxic substances causes no undesirable side-effects if the condition is diagnosed at an early stage of development and treatment prescribed. But prospects decrease once the heart and lungs are affected.

Otto Peter Schmidt, the Bad Reichenhall lung specialist, spoke of the possibilities – and limits – of a cure. Patients in the initial stages of asthma have a good chance of recovery but they rarely obtain the best possible treatment. But in advanced cases even the best treatment can only relieve or delay the disease, it can no longer be of decisive influence upon it.

Sickness insurance companies usually spend their money wrongly, Schmidt claimed. Patients are sent to sanatoria for rest and recuperation even though they may have already applied for a disability pension. By this time their asthma is incurable.

Patients in this position often look upon the treatment at the sanatoria with great distrust and reluctance as they believe the insurance companies wish to cheat them of their pension.

It would be better not to try to effect cures on the incurable, Schmidt claimed. It is hopeless to try to rehabilitate invalids. It would be better to preserve health and performance in the first place and not allow a person to reach this stage.

As far as asthma is concerned, as with any other complex disease, treatment must be seen as a community function involving the joint efforts of the medical insurance companies, the family doctor, works doctors, the labour exchange and welfare departments.

Wilhelm Girstenbrey

(Süddeutsche Zeitung, 23 May 1973)

People with heart pacemakers can fly experts claim

Heart sufferers equipped with p- makers need have no fears t. travelling by air, Professor Ruff, he. the aviation medicine department a. Aeronautics Research and Experim. Station, claimed recently. Over fif. thousand persons in the Federal Rep. wear pacemakers to regulate their he. beat.

According to the results of experim. Professor Ruff conducted, these p. makers do not affect an aeropl. electronic equipment. And conve. this electronic equipment has no adv. influence on the functioning of a he. pacemaker.

But people with heart pacemakers m. take care when being checked f. weapons prior to take-off. Th. equipment installed at airports to t. metal objects being carried by passe. can affect the normal functioning o. pacemakers.

No danger is involved as the pacer. resumes normal operations a few se. afterwards. However at most airpor. police ask wearers of pacemakers to. forward and undergo a special b. search instead of being scre. electronically.

(Bremer Nachrichten, 21 May 1.

Surgery for obesity

More and more doctors are . scribing surgery for fat people . do not respond to simming diets.

Dr U.J. Bolte told a recent congr. Wiesbaden that doctors at . University Hospital had neutralised . of the small intestine in three case. the result that weight dropped and . complaints such as high blood pres. heart trouble, diabetes and ex. cholesterol improved or comple. disappeared.

Weight continued to drop even . one patient had his neutralised . intestine attached to the digestive . once again.

(Frankfurter Rundschau, 22 May .

People are quick to criticise parents who do not show their children enough love. But giving a child too much care and attention is also reprehensible. Parents who spoil their children are consciously or subconsciously trying to make up for the fact that they are not offering them enough love. Any child treated in this way will soon become a problem child.

Problems of child psychotherapy aired at Lindau congress

The medical treatment of problem children was one of the subjects discussed at this year's Lindau Psychotherapy Congress for doctors, medical students and social workers. Dr Peter Hahn, the Heidelberg psychoanalyst, claimed that the number of problem children seemed to have increased as doctors are nowadays paying more attention to the neurotic influences on children's diseases and setbacks in their development.

More and more doctors have become acquainted with psychosomatic problems and learn to diagnose physical illnesses and behavioural dosorders in the light of psychological factors. Nail-biting is no longer seen as a symptom of a calcium shortage but as the outcome of a lack of security.

Bed-wetting is no longer looked upon as a lack of self-control that must be punished but as an unconscious expression of a child's helplessness. Overwhelmed by the demands placed upon it in a particular situation, it withdraws into the role of an infant.

Dr Rudolf Adam, a children's psychotherapist from Göttingen, spoke to the delegates about neurotic developments in infancy which inhibits a child's mental development and act as a barrier to the establishment of relations with those around it.

A new-born child, even if it is wanted, does more to a family than just increase numbers by one. It also prompts a change in relations between parents and their elder children, however close these may have been previously.

If the elder children previously felt insecure about the love of their parents – perhaps because the parents had too little time for their children or too little interest in them – they will become jealous and draw attention to themselves in school through pranks, illness, unconscious mistakes or inattentiveness.

When the child drops and breaks its third cup at home for instance, the parents will perhaps protest energetically against such carelessness in an attempt to restore law and order and the child will see this as proof that it is not loved enough.

If this child is then brought to a children's psychologist, it will be afraid, remain silent or be completely unable to put its feelings into words. Dr Mirjam Schröder, a children's psychologist from Hamburg, claimed that the only way out of this situation is play, painting, model-making or operating a Punch and Judy show. Some time during play the child will be faced with a test and the child will outline its situation within the family by means of puppets, toy animals or furniture.

During this test a ten-year-old girl grouped a number of dolls together to form families and confronted them with a childless couple. "The parents without a child want to buy one as they haven't yet learned that children are a bother," she explained. "The other couples want to sell their children."

Asked whether she would like to be sold in this way, the girl was quick to answer yes. She even knew to whom she would like to be sold – an English family next door where she felt secure despite the language barrier.

Dr Schröder claimed to have found that most parents do not lack good will, only the knowledge. Young parents in particular complain that though their school teachers taught them how laser beams or computers work, they had not learned what goes on inside an infant child.

Dr Hans Dieckmann, head of the C. Jung Institute in Berlin, put forw. diagnostic method that had pr. particularly successful with childre. consists of taking the child's favo. fairy-tale and finding which charact. sympathises with. The psychother. can them learn all about the ch. personality structure, the patie. history and the form of the neurosis.

Psychotherapists have to engage th. patients in conversation in order to g. knowledge of their mental state and th. face as many difficulties when deal. with adults as when treating children.

Dr Konrad Wolff, the Basle psycho. therapist, claimed that doctors had lo. the ability to understand their patie. language as a result of their one-sid. academic training. What they tell patie. – if they have the time to tell them at – is way beyond the comprehension . the man in the street.

But patients still look upon doctors . fellow-humans who will be able to fi. out the causes of their sickness. Ad. are no different from children in . respect. As neither adults nor children . always able to express themselves cl. when explaining what is wrong . them, psychotherapy is placing . emphasis on methods enabling the pati. to express himself in play, psychodra. drawing or painting.

Günther Melvin

(Kieler Nachrichten, 22 May 19.

■ EDUCATION

Correspondence school for the blind opened in Stuttgart

A correspondence school for the blind, this country's first, recently started operations at the South German Library for the Blind in Stuttgart where the 620 lessons taking blind students to school-leaving certificate standard were spoken on to tape.

The course, compiled by the Academic Association for Adult Education in Stuttgart, will take three and a half years. Apart from the tapes that will be loaned, any of the sixty thousand blind persons in the Federal Republic wishing to follow the course will be given extensive material printed in Braille.

The course is arranged in such a way that the blind will be able to follow it after doing a full day's work, or so the organisers claim. An indispensable feature of the course is the six hundred or so lessons to be held at weekends in the Academic Association's headquarters in Stuttgart, Düsseldorf, Hamburg, Frankfurt and Munich. Here the blind will mingle with non-blind correspondence course students.

Teaching material is largely arranged in the form of programmed learning but the students must also send some of their work to the correspondence school so that it can be examined and the students helped. Those taking part in the course will also have to sit six intermediate examinations.

A spokesman for the Education for the Blind Association in Bad Godesberg, the organisation that provided the main impetus for the course, states that the Cologne-based State Central Bureau for Extra-Mural Studies has examined the course and issued it its highest seal of approval. This decision means that the blind persons following the course will be able to claim a grant for part of the 93 Marks a month fee.

The aim of the course is for participants to reach school-leaving examination standard. But anyone who wants to give up after two and a half years will have the opportunity of sitting the intermediate certificate of proficiency.

In 1974 the school for the blind hopes to organise a correspondence course in management which will bring successful students up to the standard of vocational college graduates.

Wolfgang-Dietrich Zöllner

(Frankfurter Rundschau, 17 May 1973)

More denistry students needed

University expansion has kept pace with the increase in the student population, an Arts and Science Council report states. In 1972 the number of students rose by ten per cent to 648,100 while the number of academic staff rose by 9.6 per cent to seventy thousand and the amount of space available (excluding university hospitals) rose by at least ten per cent to 6.2 million square metres.

The Arts and Science Council claims that the number of academic posts rose more than threefold between 1960 and 1971 – academic staff totalled some twenty thousand in 1960 – and another 6,100 posts were set up in 1972. But the staff-student ratio has not improved across the board and varies according to subject and type of further training institute.

While there are 9.8 students per teacher at universities (excluding medical faculties) compared to 18.1 in 1960, there are 16.7 per teacher at colleges of education compared with 19.7 in 1960 and 10.2 in academies of art and musical conservatories (compared with 12.7 in 1960).

The staff-student ratio is most favourable in the science faculty with 7.7 students per teacher, and least favourable in law (21.6) and economics and social science (18.1). These figures only represent the average. The figures for some universities are considerably higher or lower. But it must also be remembered that these ratios cannot serve as a guide to quality.

The Federal states claim that university expansion is to progress so that there will be space for between 750,000 and 780,000 students by 1977. The Arts and Science Council urges the expansion of dental faculties and research stations to guard against any further deterioration in the dental service.

In 1971 a total of 1,255 freshers began studying dentistry. By 1980 this figure should be as high as two thousand a year. Staff and treatment facilities will have to be increased correspondingly.

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 17 May 1973)

Dyslexia can be inherited, expert claims

Neue Hannoversche

Schoolchildren who find difficulty reading and writing could have inherited this from their parents, Professor Curt Weinschenk of Marburg University claims in the latest issue of *Deutsches Ärzteblatt*.

An examination of 1,300 children found that seven per cent of them were suffering from congenital dyslexia. There were twice as many boys as girls in the total.

The effects of this congenital dyslexia depends on the type of school, the method of instruction, the teacher and the early diagnosis of the disease.

The proportion of dyslectic children in one-class elementary schools was found to be as high as 13.6 per cent. Dyslexia has nothing at all to do with intelligence, Professor Weinschenk stated in his report. Some of these children had an IQ of 130.

If dyslectic children are treated early enough they can catch up on other children of their age within twelve months. The best time for treatment is in the child's second year at school. Afterwards treatment is more difficult and can complicate psychological development.

(Neue Hannoversche, 23 May 1973)

End caps

The executive of the German Language Association decided by a small majority at a meeting in Buxtehude to call for an end to the current practice of writing nouns with a capital latter.

Only last March the academic staff on the German Language Association called for no more than a minor amendment to current practice.

(Hannoversche Allgemeine, 7 May 1973)

■ OUR WORLD

Young girls treated for stress at Bad Steben

One hundred and seventy-five patients at Bad Steben spa in Bavaria, 25 miles from Hof an der Saale, have a special place and a special position, though in fact their complaints do not on the surface seem to differ much from those of other patients.

They themselves say they are suffering from stomach upsets, constant tension, conditions of anxiety, pains in the back, periodic pains, insomnia and lack of appetite, allergies, fits of melancholy with uncontrollable weeping, constant craving for food or circulatory disorders.

But the main thing that separates these people, the 175 receiving special treatment at Bad Steben's Auental Clinic, from others at Bad Steben is their age – they are younger. All are between fifteen and 21. One would think that they were too young to be patients at a sanatorium, too young to be so eaten up by stress that they have to seek refuge in an isolated spot in the Franconian forests.

Many had just started career training when they felt they wanted to give it all up. Many of them had lost all ambition and no longer had the energy to do anything or make any decisions of their own.

The doctor-in-charge Dr Günter Bendorf said: "Our aim here is to counteract complaints that could well become chronic suffering. We are fortunate enough to have plenty of space at our disposal and sufficient staff to carry out the kind of integral therapy that is the ideal of all men of medicine today."

This "all-over" therapy consists of activating the mind, body and soul in order to fight sickness, which is defined by the World Health Organisation as the lack of bodily, spiritual and social well-being.

Apart from the seven doctors, one psychologist and team of nurses who are under no compulsion to wear forbidding nurses' uniforms, but who wear light-blue casually styled dresses there are ten sports teachers and three occupational therapists available to treat the young girls.

The senior medical officer at Bad Steben Dr Ernst Hemann said: "Our patients are kept busy the whole day. We try to offer them as much as possible. This is important and practical in helping them to find things to do with their free time. Our main aim is to teach them how to use their time when the spa treatment is over, so that the things they have enjoyed doing and benefited from here can be carried on in the outside world."

Ernst Hemann and Dr Bendorf are both scholars of Karl Jaspers. The girls at their clinic take part in "self-training". Dr Hemann said: "Compulsion is out of place in this autogenous training. It has no point and would not have the slightest hope of success with the girls at Auental."

About a third of the girls there take part in this autogenous training.

Swimming, gymnastics, hiking and sports, on the other hand, are compulsory, although of course no girl is forced to do more than her physical condition reasonably allows. One quarter of the girls cannot swim!

The countryside round Bad Steben is ideally suited for the hiking part of the treatment. This was the part of the world where Alexander von Humboldt lived for a time and planned his great journeys. Apart from the woods they are hills, but all with gentle slopes and none more than 1,800 feet high. Busy roads do not come near Bad Steben. The Federal Association of Insurance Companies was well-advised when it chose this spot for its 25 million Mark project.

Among the many modern means of therapy common in Bad Steben, so many that the layman can scarcely comprehend, is telemetry. With the aid of telemetric equipment doctors can check the heart condition and blood pressure of several patients at once, even if the group is not in the doctor's surgery but is miles away on a walk.

This means that while being examined the girls can be kept out of the consulting room and surgery, places which often put patients in a state of agitation even though their bodies are not being subjected to the slightest normal stress.

But on the hikes a doctor is always with the patients and from time to time gives them instructions which he feels will be of benefit, such as to slow their pace, or stop and do some running on the spot.

On these hikes the girls have small radio transmitters attached to their body, which send back details of their bodily responses to the clinic. This way, while virtually enjoying themselves and relaxing, they are enabling the doctor to take measurements that could be vital in the further treatment of their condition.

One gets the impression that a major part of the treatment in this clinic is to get girls out of the habit of reaching out for the bottle of pills as soon as they feel stress symptoms coming on. Many of them freely admit that before coming to Bad Steben they regularly took tablets of the most diverse kinds.

At the clinic they are taught that the most important thing they can do is work with doctors and nurses to restore their health on the six-week course.

For instance the many girls who come to Bad Steben vastly overweight as a result of bad eating habits are given a course in how to cook nourishing non-fattening foods. They learn that even a person with rolls of fat need not give up the pleasures of eating, but that she needs to eat the things that will help alleviate her condition. These girls cook their own food and make their own salads. Those that succeed in losing weight are given little treats!

Occupational therapy is undertaken as a normal part of the daily routine of patients at Auental Clinic, which was the only one of its kind in Western Europe until mid-April and which has been imitated by Kišelka Spa in Czechoslovakia.

Among the equipment available is potter's wheels, weaving looms, a fully equipped music room with instruments and recording apparatus and a fully equipped library with something for everyone. Girls can also take courses in make-up and first-aid.

Why did the Insurers Association build this clinic and open it for young patients in the autumn of 1971? A spokesman for the Association said in Berlin: "Simply because the demand for health farm treatment for girls under 21 was growing all the time." Demand decided that such a clinic for girls should be opened before a similar one for boys was required. But since mid-April a similar clinic for lads has been operating in Bad Dürrheim.

How do these youngest of *Kur* patients view the treatment they are undergoing? What in their opinion are the factors that determine that they must book for six weeks at this refuge of hope in Bad Steben?

Discussing this with some of the girls at present there, a motley mixture from all over the Federal Republic, I discovered that two factors crop up repeatedly – firstly the feeling that they have taken a job which does not suit them, which they do not like and which does not give them fulfilment, and secondly tensions that cannot be relieved in their private sector, in the case of these young girls almost always tensions with their parents.

Of fourteen girls questioned only one was happy in her work – she was a doctor's assistant. All the others felt themselves to be more or less a square peg in a round hole. One young shorthand typist complained that her job carried no responsibility. She was constantly being watched over by her boss. She also felt that the constant talk in her family about the importance of completing her education during her schooldays was intolerable. So she gave up. She withdrew from her responsibility to walk towards a good career future. But today her lack of independence has made her ill.

It is said that opportunity only knocks once. But at least at the Auental Clinic girls are given pointers, showing them possible ways out of their dilemma.

Dr Bendorf was asked if he had any indication of the degree of success achieved by the Clinic. He replied: "After twelve months we send a questionnaire to girls who have been here. We have just received the first set of replies and these must be evaluated. Many of the girls have written that they enjoyed their time here and that they are continuing to work at what we have shown them while at home. One fact that has already emerged: the number of days these girls have had off sick before and after treatment here are in the ratio of five to one!"

Sieglinde Werner

(Hannoversche Allgemeine, 18 May 1973)



The Bad Steben clinic (Photo: Archiv der BfA, Berlin)

TV trickster

A thirty year-old man promised the city fathers, citizens and a publican in the town of Bockenem, near Hildesheim, that he would make a film of the place for television. They believed him and their belief cost them several hundred Marks.

A spokesman for Bockenem said that the man booked into a hotel on the edge of the Harz country, stayed there three days and had a number of discussions with representatives of the town, the local citizens association and the press.

With his boast that "Bockenem will be on the box" this supposed organisation manager of Western Broadcasting had an open sesame to the archives and the hearts of the people of Bockenem.

He received assurances that streets in the centre of the town would be closed to traffic for eighteen days. The publican on whom the TV man had bestowed his favours felt himself honoured and provided the best his kitchen and cellar could manage.

Sad to say the guest disappeared after three days taking the publican's till contents with him, 190 Marks in all.

(Frankfurter Rundschau, 21 May 1973)

Abortive attempt

Abortion for pigeons is being tried in Mühldorf. Herr Federer, the mayor, announced to the astonished town council how the abortion laws had been broken to cut down the pigeon plague. At the same time he assured them that there need be no conflict with animal protection societies.

The mayor's therapy? A pensioner has been called in to inspect roofs of houses and collect any pigeon eggs he may find. He takes them home, *boils them*, and returns to the place whence they came.

The pigeons go on trying to hatch the eggs and do not bother laying any new ones.

According to Herr Federer this is an effective and humane way of preventing unwanted pigeons' being born.

Fritz Schwarz

(Münchner Merkur, 18 May 1973)

Urge to travel

One in two working people between the age of fourteen and 25 in this country would like to work abroad at least temporarily, according to a survey by the Institute for Youth Research, Munich. Forty-nine per cent of the youngsters interviewed said they would take off for overseas if the job opportunities were good. Nineteen per cent were uncertain and 22 per cent would prefer to stay in this country.

(Münchner Merkur, 18 May 1973)

Generation gap

Young people in this country often accuse the older generation of lacking understanding for the young. The fact is well known and has recently been expressed in statistical terms by the Allensbach Institute.

According to a survey only 23 per cent of adults below the age of thirty feel that the older generation understands them. Sixty-four per cent go so far as to accuse the old folks of lacking understanding.

Of the under-45s about fifty per cent feel that people older than themselves do not understand them. Over the age of 45 people begin to feel themselves among the older generation. In the 45 to 59 age group 53 per cent of people surveyed felt they had sufficient understanding of young people.

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 16 May 1973)

■ SPORT

Keep-fit campaign snowballs to national success

On launching its nationwide keep-fit campaign on 16 March 1970 the Federal Republic Sports League cannot have envisaged the repercussions it was to have all over the country and at all levels of society.

The keep-fit campaign has gained an international name for itself even, and officials from twenty countries recently convened in Frankfurt to see for themselves how the campaign has progressed.

A dozen or so years ago people in this country felt Walter Ulbricht to be a figure of fun as he urged his disciples to engage in sporting activity at least once a week.

Ulbricht was to be seen in the GDR playing table tennis with his wife, doing his daily dozen, playing volleyball with young people and so on – always sporting his braces.

There can be no denying that he did look rather funny, but nowadays no one in this country would dismiss keeping fit as buffoonery. At first glance this country's keep-fit movement would seem to have rather a lot in common with what used to be considered ludicrous in the GDR.

Jurgen Palm, one-time Frankfurt DSB official responsible for non-competitive sport before he took over the keep-fit campaign, understandably objects to the comparison.

"We have no intention of sponsoring mass gymnastics," he says. "All we want to do is to show people that they can derive greater enjoyment from life if they will only get in a little more exercise. It is good for their health too."

Recent market research has revealed that 93 per cent of the general public in this country know what the keep-fit campaign is. A year ago only 87 per cent knew where the 1972 Summer Olympics were to be held.

The DSB keep-fit campaigners certainly hit on the right idea at the right time. In the wake of years in which the popular emphasis has been on good living, good food and motoring the latest fad is health.

People are keeping an eye on the scales, refusing an extra helping of potatoes and thinking in terms of putting in a little more exercise.

Exercise, slimming and so on are acceptable topics of conversation and the holiday trade is adapting to cater for requirements. A hotel that has nothing more to offer than a fine view and good food is going to have a hard time of it.

The urge to take exercise did not need to be invented, only to be stimulated. If a ball suddenly rolls in front of you, you automatically want to take a pot shot at it.

The prestige of top-flight athletes may be on the decline but there has been a corresponding increase in admiration for ordinary men and women who have managed, by means of a little gymnastics or running, to get rid of that spare tyre round the midriff or forestall a heart attack.

The initiators of the campaign had not expected it to be anywhere near as successful. Their aim was to boost membership of affiliated sports clubs and associations to ten million in time for the 1972 Olympics.

By the time the Olympics were held in Munich membership amounted to nearly twelve million, let alone the many members of the general public who do not fancy the idea of joining a sports club specially for the purpose of physical training.

The progress of the campaign has been followed with interest by manufacturers of sporting equipment. Cycle manufacturers have sold more bicycles. Cross-country skiing caught on last winter. Track shoe manufacturers are selling more inexpensive shoes. The same goes for shorts, singlets, track suits and equipment of other kinds.

The Sports League itself has profited least from the boom. It has tested more than 120 items of keep-fit equipment but has consdered only one in ten of them to be sufficiently good to warrant its seal of approval.

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Revenue from keep-fit equipment sales licences amounts to about 80,000 Marks a year, and roughly the same amount is netted from sales of gramophone records (Let's Dance Again) and a keep-fit manual.

All told the DSB netted 220,000 Marks from its keep-fit campaign last year, and the design of newspaper advertisements alone cost 60,000 Marks.

The advertisements were admittedly placed free of charge, and the estimated value of virtually free newspaper publicity amounted to some four million Marks.

The road to keeping fit is at times paved with certain dangers. DSB officials must have felt at least a certain amount of moral responsibility for accidents sustained in cycling or running when people bit off more than they could chew.

Keep-fitters who join a sports club enjoy a modicum of insurance cover. This is more than can be said, however, of the many members of the general public who do not relish the prospect of club membership and all it entails.

They were encouraged to do something for their health but not told how to go about it. What happened was what usually happens in similar circumstances. A club was called into being.

The Federal Republic Keep-Fit Club can, however, claim to be a club for the unclubable. Its Hon. Pres. is Professor Jürgen Diekert, head of the spare-time sport research department at the future University of Oldenburg.

The club's vice-presidents are Hermann Neuberger, vice-president of the Football Association, Hans-Joachim Hangstein, president of the Cycling Association, and Dr Günther Sabetzki, president of the North Rhine-Westphalian Ice-Skating Association.

Its Hon. Treasurer is Fritz Bauer of Hamburg, spokesman for the standing conference of state sports associations, and the man responsible for publicity is Alfons Gerz, head of Sport-Informationsdienst, the largest sports news agency in Europe.

Between them these notables were soon able to establish the club on a sound footing. The Olympic Sports Library in Munich may be a newcomer to publishing but last year it sold 650,000 books about the Olympics, two million Marks in profits going to the Sports Aid Foundation.

This Munich organisation was persuaded that the keep-fit club was a worthy cause and its 97 agents all over the country are now club agents too. Those who manage to enrol 20,000 members in their area are set up with a keep-fit centre free of charge.

Incidentally, the Olympic Sports Library representatives are currently engaged in marketing the official companion volume to the 1974 association football World Cup, a project in which Hermann Neuberger as the FA official responsible for organising the World Cup is keenly interested.

This ad hoc organisation may seem rather alarming to officials accustomed to the federalistic structure of sports organisations in this country, but it does have its advantages.

Club membership costs 28 Marks a year. Eight times a year members are sent a magazine containing helpful hints, addresses and sports features of one kind and another.

The subscription also includes insurance cover in the event of the member falling foul of one or another of the hazards that face the greenhorn and may not be covered by existing health insurance schemes.

This country's keep-fit campaign has been such a success that delegates from twenty countries came to Frankfurt from 23 to 25 May to find out for themselves how it all works.

Ulrich Kaiser

(Handelsblatt, 24 May 1973)

August Blumensaat – the 62 year-old marathon king

August Blumensaat is an accounts clerk by profession and keeps detailed statistics of his hobby, which is long-distance running. So he knows when jubilees are in the offing and makes appropriate preparations.

Blumensaat, 62, will shortly be setting out on his hundredth marathon at a track near his Essen home, and friends and admirers will be there to congratulate him. "Iron August" has done his homework this time. Over the past two seasons he has travelled from one marathon to another in order to near treble figures as fast as possible.

It was to be a unique achievement and as he notched up one marathon after another he took care not to overstrain himself so as to remain in trim for the next one.

This time he is to go flat out. "Provided the weather is good I reckon I ought to cover the distance in less than three hours ten minutes. I have put in almost as much training as I used to do and lost eight pounds in the process," he says. In three weeks he has run 300 miles.

Blumensaat's career is as memorable as his name. He started out as a sprinter, covering the 100 metres in a respectable 11.3 seconds.

In the 1928 Olympics he saw El Quafi of Algeria win the marathon, though, and ever since he has been captivated by its 26 miles. He was training hard in preparation for the marathon at the 1940 Olympics in Tokyo when the Second World War brought his career to an abrupt end.

The war and imprisonment as a PoW robbed him of the best years of a long-distance runner's career. In 1955, at the age of 44, he was already known as "Iron August". That was the year in which he set up an all-German record time of 2 hours 27 minutes 41 seconds.

At the 1954 European championships in Berne he only came in eighteenth, though, and he never managed to

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compete in the Olympics or win a national championship title.

On occasions he did too much book-work and took too few risks. Twice he won a national team championship title with his Essen club. Twice he was runner-up to the national champion in an individual event.

In the course of his marathon career he has run 146,427 kilometres, entered for 1,049 events, won 538 times, run the marathon 420 times in trainig and spent sixteen years among the AAA's thirty best marathon runners.

August Blumensaat was the first senior citizen runner long before Dr Ernst van Aaken started organising runs for old people. Often enough people told him he ought to have a more suitable hobby at his age. Yet on he ran.

As time went by the competition in his own age-group grew fierce.

But Blumensaat has been content to take his time. On 1 April 1974 he is to retire early at the age of sixty-three in order to be able to put in more training.

"Then I will be able to run between thirty and 35 kilometres a day again," he says with a smile of anticipation. "I aim to be the first German over sixty to run the marathon in less than three hours."

Replying to accusations that it is not quite normal for a man in good health to retire early merely to be able to devote his time to running, Blumensaat fields figures in his defence.

"I will be in receipt of a pension of 1,500 Marks a month. I have worked long enough, and never neglected my profession even at the height of my career. What more am I to have to say?"

He will certainly not be at a loss for things to do. He is Hon. Chairman, press secretary and a coach to Essen amateur athletics association. Besides, there are his four grandsons, one or other of whom might yet also turn out to be a promising marathon runner.

Manfred Steffny

(Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger, 24 May 1973)



(Photo: Horstmüller)